NIAGARA COLLEGE
of Applied Arts and Technology
WELLAND CAMPUS
LEARNING
RESOURCE CENTRE

Remembrance Day, Page 6

Horticultural haven, Page 12

The passing of a great teacher, Pages 10,11

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NIAGARA NEWS

VOLUME 27, NO. 4 —FREE— NOV. 8, 1996

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New policies

By ADAM KIESWETTER
Staff Writer

The federal government might be putting Constitution talks on the back-burner, but amendments to the Student Administrative Council (SAC) Constitution are done like dinner.

At its Oct. 25 meeting, SAC approved most of this year's proposed additions and amendments to the Constitution with relative ease.

SAC's Constitution is the documented embodiment of student council.

It outlines such details as the council's official operating procedure, the range of SAC's powers when spending students' money, the responsibilities of its members, and the role of the college's Board of Directors when dealing with student council.

Although amendments are usually made every year, last year's SAC left the Constitution almost untouched, says Don Woodruff, executive vice-president of SAC.

It is the executive vice-president's responsibility to examine the Constitution every year and to determine whether any amendments need to be made.

The proposed amendments are then presented to the rest of SAC, who after discussion and approval, pass the list on to the Board of Directors for the final stamp of approval.

"Not a lot of students read the Constitution, and not a lot of students get involved with SAC," says Woodruff, 21, a first-year Business Administration and Accounting program student.

Woodruff says "the Constitution directly affects the membership (students) and how SAC runs business." The manner in which the student's $131 activity fee is spent is basically determined within the pages of the Constitution, he says.

(Continued on Page 3)

Take time to remember Nov. 11

"It's just as important to wear a poppy as it is to make a donation," says Bill Harapick of the St. Catharines Royal Canadian Legion, pictured with legion member Ralph DeLuca (centre) and a GM worker at the GM plant in St. Catharines.

Photo by Ryan Barber, Cenotaph photo by Keri-Lynn Smith

Niagara budget blues

Ontario government cuts create college deficit

By JHIM BURWELL
Staff Writer

Niagara College has a deficit of $1.7 million.

College President Dan Patterson says it is a new situtation caused by last year's Ontario government cuts.

The old deficit was paid off at the end of March.

Hans van der Slagt, the college's vice-president, administrative services, says the deficit is being budgeted to balance over the next three years.

"A funding plan is in place."

Patterson says the deficit should be "completely wiped out in next three years."

"I hope by mid-November we can be more definitive," he says about the college's finances.

The Niagara College budget is "in the hands of the treasury," says van der Slagt.

The effects of last year's cuts to Niagara College have stabilized, meaning it is certain where the college will cut and where it will not, says Patterson.

He says the "stress we have now is around work loads — we are minus staff positions to manage those loads. There is a big readjustment for new roles and duties."

Meanwhile, the Ontario government has given no indication of its financial plan for the 1997-98 fiscal year.

Provincial Minister of Finance

(Continued on Page 3)

Future goals for colleges

By JASON YOUNG
Staff Writer

A panel appointed by the Ontario Minister of Education and Training to review post-secondary education met with the Ontario Community College Student Parliamentary Association on Oct. 24.

The executive of the association received positive feedback on the organization's submission report, entitled The Future Goals for Ontario Colleges, Student Perspective.

The association had previously submitted a draft copy of its report which one member said "was a pleasure to read."

The association includes Student Academic Council (SAC) members from colleges and universities across Ontario. The concerns of the SAC members were voiced to the review panel during a recent meeting in Toronto.

"The panel is a group of six individuals, and at the meeting each institution had five minutes (to voice concerns)," said Don Woodruff, Niagara College's Student Administrative Council vice-president and the association's southwestern regional chairperson. "What happens is the panel gets all the information from the institutes and organizations; then the panel writes its own paper and gives it to the government," said Woodruff.

"An increase in tuition will not only affect the accessibility of college education to students directly out of high school," Woodruff told the review panel.

"It will affect single parents, welfare recipients and people wishing to prepare themselves to re-enter the workforce."

The association "demands that the government's and students' share of the costs remain at current levels," said Woodruff to the meeting's review panel.

The association, which represents full-time college students from Ontario, announced its disapproval of the recent funding reductions, its concern that the government has not accurately estimated the future demand for post-secondary education, and its concern about the lack of research into what the acceptable student debt load should be.

INDEX

Campus Buzz 5
Remembrance 6
Horticulture 12
Politics 13
Features 15
Entertainment ..16 & 17
Sports 22

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COLLEGE NEWS

Governor General award winner

By JANICE POOLE
Staff Writer

The recipient of the 1996 Governor General of Canada Academic Medal was honored at convocation ceremonies held at Centennial Secondary School in Welland on Oct. 24.

Sylvia Nemcko graduated in June from the Educational Resources and Special Needs program with a 97.2 per cent average. Nemcko was a member of the President's Honor Roll and received a Faculty Award of Excellence.

"I was surprised," said Nemcko. "It wasn't something I had anticipated."

Nemcko is a family support volunteer with Family and Children's Services Niagara, a respite provider volunteer, and a Brownie leader for the Girl Guides of Canada.

"It was difficult finding the balance in my life," said Nemcko.

Nemko has a daughter, Julia, and a son with special needs, Greg, whom she mentioned in her speech at convocation.

"Her speech was compelling," said Dr. Bonnie Rose, Niagara College's vice-president, academic. "It was so moving to see someone that has carried that (having a child with special needs) into a learning opportunity where she can help others."

Niagara College President Dan Patterson awarded the medal to Nemcko.

Patterson said the 300 to 400 people in attendance were "obviously moved" by Nemcko's speech.

"It's nice to see that the Canadian government recognizes excellence," said Patterson.

Niagara College President Dan Patterson with award winner Sylvia Nemcko at convocation.
Photo by Janice Poole

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Volunteers needed

By JENNIFER HARDING
Staff Writer

Calling all staff members.

Your help is needed for some future fund-raising events at the college.

A bake sale is set for Tuesday, Nov. 12, in the Tecumseh foyer at the Welland campus from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Staff is asked to contribute any baked goods they can.

If you are able to help with baked goods, please label your item, including your name, and if possible, use a disposable container or clearly mark your container for return. Please deliver the baked goods on Nov. 12 to the Tecumseh lounge by 9 a.m.

Raffle items are also needed for a Christmas party on Saturday, Dec. 7, at the Welland campus.

Also being collected are mittens, hats and scarves for a mitten tree at the Christmas party. Following the party, the items are being donated to Women's Place, a women's shelter in Welland.

Volunteers are needed for helping with the Christmas Party Planning Committee, wrapping gifts and setting up the cafeteria.

If you are interested in helping, please contact Cathy Ashby, Ext. 7545, Nancy Avolio, Ext. 7588, Pat Clay, Ext. 7705, Nancy Marcov, Ext. 7556, Wendy Nicholls, Ext. 7570 or Jan Potton, Ext. 7604.

Santa Claus visits college's Christmas Party

By JENNIFER HARDING
Staff Writer

Get your jingle bells ready, Christmas is fast approaching.

Niagara College is holding its Annual Children's Christmas Party on Saturday, Dec. 7, at the Welland campus.

The party, for children and relatives of college staff members, will be held from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the cafeteria in the Black Walnut building.

Santa will be making an appearance at the party, and there will be gifts, activities, entertainment and refreshments.

This year's theme for the Christmas tree is a mitten tree. Those attending the party are asked to bring mittens, hats and scarves to decorate the tree.

All items collected will be donated to Women's Place, a women's shelter in Welland.

If interested in attending, complete the form delivered to your department and return it to Wendy Nicholls at Ext. 7570 in SE105 no later than Nov. 15.

The cost is $12.50 a child, which includes a gift.

DOLLARS AND SENSE

OCCSPA committed to helping students

OCCSPA represents the students of Ontario

By JASON YOUNG
Staff Writer

Niagara College's Student Administrative Council (SAC) involvement with the Ontario Community College Student Parliamentary Association shows its commitment to helping student education.

"A lot of students don't know about its (the association's) importance," says Don Woodruff, Niagara College's SAC vice-president and the association's southwestern regional chairperson.

Student councils at Ontario post-secondary institutions have a choice of two organizations they can join at a provincial level.

Government issues can go through the association and be adressed to the provincial government or they may join the Canadian Federation of Students of Ontario (CFSO).

"So we're (Niagara College) with OCCSPA/APECCO. They're more recognized as representing students of Ontario," said Woodruff.

He also said because of SAC's involvement with OCCSPA/APECCO, the review panel would look at concerns not only being made by 4,500 students, but by 14 to 15 colleges.

"They (the panel) enjoyed our briefing," said Woodruff. "It was 22 pages of numbers and figures. They enjoyed our speeches because we knew what we were doing. We knew where we were going to go.

'It's a huge network where students' concerns are addressed' -Jason Chase

"We just want students to know that OCCSPA/APECCO is out there. There are a lot of institutes that don't care whether they join an organization, be it CFSO or OCCSPA/APECCO, because they don't feel it's important," said Woodruff.

Niagara College's SAC also gets to network with other student councils at various colleges because of its involvement with OCCSPA/APECCO. This enables Niagara's SAC to turn to other colleges for information on any concerns or problems.

"That way we're not wasting time and energy on issues that have been solved previously. We can take that information and use it; that way we (SAC) are not wasting students' money," said Woodruff.

Jason Chase, Niagara College SAC president, is a Growth and Development Advisor with the OCCSPA/APPECO organization.

"It's a huge network where students' concerns are addressed," said Chase.

Woodruff said fees for involvement with OCCSPA/APECCO cost 63 cents a student, whereas it would be about $11 a student for involvement with CFSO.

"At our college, the SAC fees are the lowest compared to other colleges," said Chase. "What SAC members are paid (at Niagara College) are the lowest. What we want to stress is we're not in student government for the money; we're in it for the students."

No small potatoes

SAC holds $650,000 of students' money

(continued from page 1)

SAC's yearly budget is about $650,000, says Woodruff, "and not small potatoes when you get it all together. A lot of students don't realize that.

"If they (the students) actually realized we (SAC) have $650,000 of their dollars ... then they would think $650,000 is a lot, I could buy a nice Viper with that."

Jason Chase, 21, a post-diploma Public Relations program student and SAC president, says Woodruff "deserves a pat on the back" for the long hours he spent compiling the "long overdue" list of changes.

"It's basically something that's been a long time in coming. A lot of these changes should have been done a few years ago," he says.

One of the only proposals to raise heated debate at the meeting was the addition of an article concerning SAC's acclamation policy.

The proposed new article stipulates that during an election, all candidates who claim office by acclamation are to receive a two-thirds vote in their favor by the board of directors to remain in the acclaimed position.

Woodruff says this is a safeguard against unqualified candidates who might end up acclaimed to a sensitive SAC position.

"You could be acclaimed and then the executive committee (SAC) could oust you if they thought you weren't doing your job, but that could already be after the damage is done," says Woodruff.

'They're saying 'no,no,no...' -Don Woodruff

"If you're not willing to do the active running of a campaign, and this being subjected to questions by the membership, why should you represent the membership just because no one else wanted to run for it?

"Most likely the people that did oppose were probably slacking off," says Woodruff. "They're saying 'no, no, no, if I'm acclaimed I want to be in there and have no worries about it.'"

SAC liaison Lou DiMattio says she thinks the proposed changes "were well thought out."

"A lot of good discussion came out of it and we'll see where we'll go with the Board of Directors on the changes," she says.

DiMattio says the board of directors will be reviewing the proposed changes over the next few weeks.

Deficit to be gone by 1999

(continued from page 1)

Ernie Eves is scheduled to make an economic statement later this month to reveal how much revenue will flow to the colleges.

"We stressed to the government that we are still dealing with the significant impact of (last year's) cuts," says Patterson, adding his hope is for no more reductions.

The colleges usually get "trial balloons" from the ministry as to where the government stands, but the concentration of the panel on post-secondary education reform and changes to school boards have meant that little is coming from Queen's Park concerning the budget.

Colleges usually get 'trial balloons' from the ministry

Traditionally, colleges get less provincial government funding per student than universities and school boards.

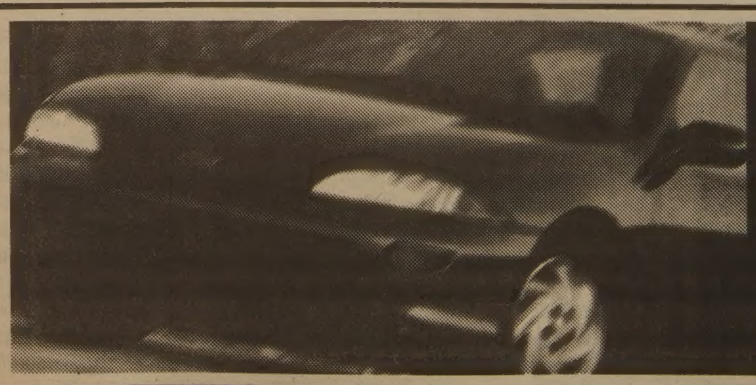
The reform panel's information will be presented to the government Dec. 15, after Eves' announcement.

The Conservative's November announcement is expected to have general and universal cuts, rather than specific cuts. The reform panel's findings will not be responded to until February.

Starlight Award Winner

Barry Sharpe, (at right) Niagara College's director Business and Entrepreneurial program, presents the Starlight Award to Rebecca Falk, a second-year student in the Office Administration Executive program. The award goes to a student who shows the most overall improvement, dedication, and commitment in the Office Administration General program, which Falk was in last year, says Christine Berkhout, co-ordinator, at left.

Photo by Katherine Nadeau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Students get exposure to the Internet market

By KERI-LYNN SMITH
Staff Writer

At 9 a.m. on Oct. 22, Dave Robinson, co-ordinator of the post-diploma Interactive Multimedia program, said, "Where is everybody?"

A group of about 18 students, including Robinson, were scheduled to leave at 9 a.m. for the Internet Trends in Technology Convention in Toronto, but so far only five students were there.

"Where is everybody?" Robinson asked again.

Twenty minutes and an additional five or six students later, the group left Welland for the Metro Toronto Convention Centre, where they manned a booth for the Toronto Blue Jays and worked at a display for Cornerstone 52 Foundation.

Cornerstone 52, a network of corporations raising money for children's charities, is producing a web site with the help of Robinson, the Interactive Multimedia program students and Charismagics, Inc., of which Dan Kurchak, a graduate of the program, is president.

"I'm nervous," Robinson said, and not without reason.

This is the first time the college has been in a corporate agreement like this where students are being used as the production team, said Chris Carey, a 24-year-old in the program.

He said conventions like this give students "exposure to the market" and a chance to advertise themselves to others in the industry.

At this time last year, the program's computers weren't yet up and running. Computers are "a start," said student Dave Coplen, 25.

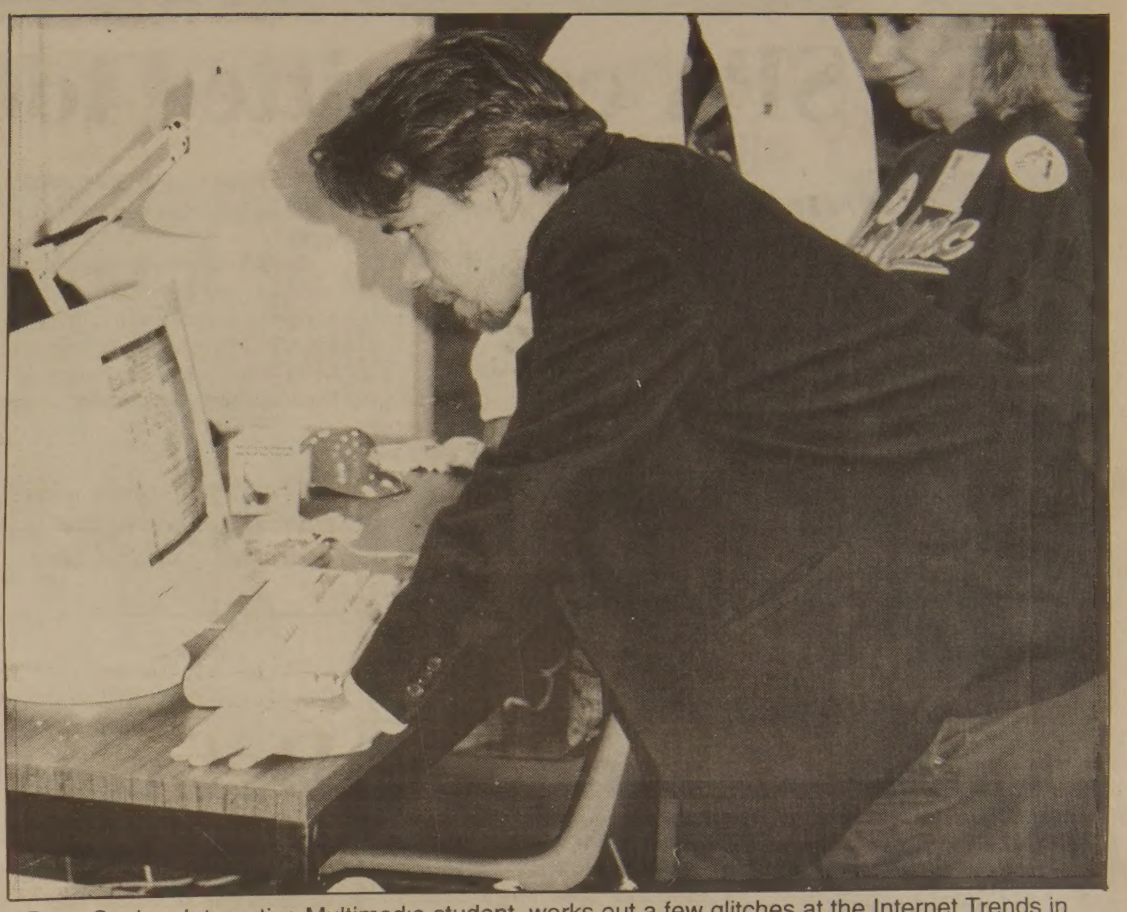
They are a start, all right, even if they don't always do what you want them to.

Early at the convention, Coplen was busy trying to get the Blue Jays' web site to run smoothly. Besides that, the rest of the day went off without a hitch.

Various companies were represented during the three-day convention, including Canada NewsWire, InterWorld, InContext Systems and Employment News. At every booth, someone was ready to tell you why this company was the company of choice for Internet needs.

Coplen said in the future everything will go through the Internet. People creating web sites will be "responsible for what the world sees."

After the convention, Carey said, "A high school was there doing the same stuff, using the same software. If they're doing stuff on the web now, by the time they reach university or college" they'll look back at high school and think things were slow then.



Dave Coplen, Interactive Multimedia student, works out a few glitches at the Internet Trends in Technology convention in Toronto.

Photo by Keri-Lynn Smith

The industry drives a need for constant learning, said Coplen, adding the Interactive Multimedia program will have to evolve as the industry evolves and it changes every day.

"You can become an industry leader just by doing something different," he said.

Ceremony a success

420 students presented with diplomas from Niagara

'The fact that the majority are adults made it a very different learning experience.'

By JANICE POOLE
Staff Writer

About 420 students were presented with diplomas at the convocation ceremonies held at Centennial Secondary School in Welland on Oct. 24.

Among those graduates was Palmier Stevenson-Young, 50, who graduated from the Continuing Education Palliative Care-Multidiscipline program.

The two-year program held one night a week through the year, comprised six 45-hour courses plus 90 hours of field placement. She graduated with a 96 per cent average.

"It was a lot of work. It was a good cross-section of people who took the program and that made it more interesting," said Stevenson-Young. "The fact that the majority are adults made it a very different learning experience."

She has lived in St. Catharines since 1981. She has been an Alzheimer respite worker since October 1990 and was elected president of the Alzheimer's Society of Niagara Region in June 1996.

St. Catharines City Council appointed her to the board of directors of the St. Catharines Historical Museum in November 1994, to the Cultural Coalition in September 1996 and as chair of the Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee from 1991 to 1994.

Stevenson-Young was elected to the board of directors of Community Heritage Ontario at its conference in Ottawa in November 1993.

She was appointed by the Regional District Health Council to the Palliative Care Services Steering Committee in April 1996. She ran for city council in the November 1994 election in the Port Dalhousie ward.

"I haven't decided whether or not to run in the next municipal election," said Stevenson-Young.

She attended the convocation ceremonies and heard the speech given by Sylvia Nemcko, the Governor General of Canada Academic Medal winner.

"She (Nemcko) showed how you can take a negative experience and turn it into something positive," said Stevenson-Young. "She seems to be a person who doesn't see problems, but sees challenges, and works for solutions."

College grad revisits Niagara

BRTF students learn the elements of success

'I know from my experience, dress makes a big difference.'

By KERI-LYNN SMITH
Staff Writer

Every year, YTV Canada's Network transmission manager Dennis Firby, a Niagara College graduate, makes his rounds to colleges speaking to students about items relevant to them.

He spoke to Broadcasting-Radio, Television and Film program students about the elements of success on Oct. 31.

"As a manager I've found there are skills people don't have," he said.

In elements of success, he included being "self-employed," having a "can-do" attitude and accepting total responsibility.

Total responsibility means taking responsibility for everything you do and "not becoming a victim," he said, adding a "can-do" attitude includes not letting people put roadblocks in your way, and watching out for negative self-fulfilling prophecies.

DENNIS FIRBY

Being self-employed is all about work-ethic behaviors and image-building, he said, adding how you dress, walk and talk are factors in image-building.

"I know from my experience, dress makes a big difference."

He said people should dress for the position, or one position up. "Set up an image so people are drawn to you."

Firby graduated from the broadcasting department at Niagara College in the late 1970s. He's been with YTV for eight years, dubbing and editing shows and commercials, and is involved in closed captioning and library services. He's been giving lectures for about three years now.

Firby said if he were in charge of the programs at colleges, he would "insist that every class have these things embedded."

Ministry reviews college issues

By JHIM BURWELL
Staff Writer

An official with the Ontario Ministry of Education toured Niagara College on Oct. 17.

The purpose of the visit was to get the new person representing the ministry "up to speed" on issues facing colleges, said Niagara College President Dan Patterson.

Katrina King, director of the college affairs branch in the Ontario Ministry of Education and Training, saw many of the program areas at the Welland campus and toured the site of the new Niagara-on-the-Lake campus.

She had lunch at the Maid of the Mist Centre in Niagara Falls with regional employers who, Patterson said, "shared their views of how the college interacts with the community."

The role of the director of college affairs includes the analysis of budgets, performances and programs.

Patterson said he felt it was, for this reason, "important we explain operations." He said Bonnie Rose, vice-president, academic, organized a well-balanced day toward that end.

"I tried to convey to her (King) that she needs to understand the impacts the cuts have had on (program) quality," said Patterson, such as large class sizes, staffing cuts, strains on research and work on programming.

The president said he felt it was a "very successful meeting. We made our points.

CAMPUS BUZZ

Niagara College signs CANCOPY agreement

By DEBRA BRIGHT
Staff Writer

It is illegal to copy most published material without permission under Canada's Copyright Act.

Access to published works is crucial to faculty and students.

Niagara College has signed a licence agreement with CANCOPY, a Canadian copyright licencing agency.

An information session about Niagara College's copyright licence and streamlined clearance procedures was held in Room ME 106 at the Welland campus on Oct. 18.

The presentation was given by Laura Vanek, CANCOPY licencing agent for the post-secondary market; and Trish Labonte, head librarian of the Welland campus.

Until recently it was difficult and time-consuming for educational institutions to get permission to copy material that was considered an important part of the curriculum.

"There was no way of acknowledging the authors or publishers of these materials, unless you went to the author or publisher, which is very time-consuming," said Labonte.

That's where CANCOPY comes in. It simplifies copyright clearance.

"When I've asked permission for clearance, it's been very fast," said Labonte. "They do turn-arounds in 24 hours."

The licence is designed for everyone at the college: faculty, students, staff and administration.

Teachers will now be able to hand-out "spur of the moment" copies to students, said Labonte.

CANCOPY was created by Canadian writing and publishing organizations and is a licencing body under Canada's Copyright Act.

It administers reproduction rights (such as photocopying rights), collects royalties from photocopying and distributes the money back to the writer, artist or publisher.

"In most cases, the authors or copyright holders didn't even want payment," said Labonte. "What they really wanted was acknowledgement that 'my work is being used.'"

The purpose of the licence is to provide access, not to replace books and other published material. For this reason, the licence has limits.

A distinction between the different types of copying is included in the licence and each type of copying has its own tariff.

There are also limits as to the percentage of material that can be copied under each of the categories.

Besides Canadian works, CANCOPY can clear the use of foreign materials.

Not included in the licence is a small list of publishers who still demand permission to copy their material.

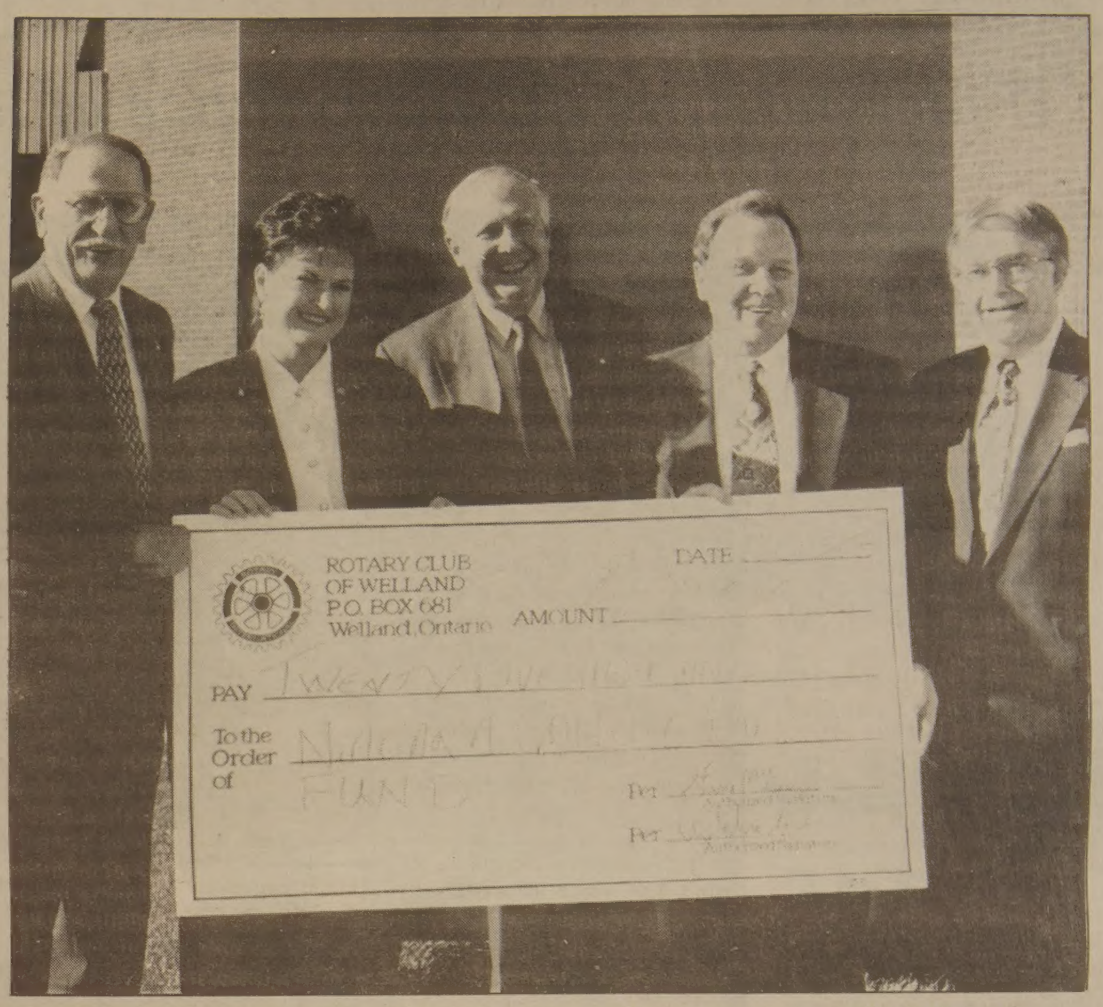
The Canadian government is among this group. "Their reasoning is that they don't want people to pay royalties because taxpayer money has already gone into this," said Labonte.

The Canadian Copyright Act is currently under review. Such issues as Internet and CD copying haven't been addressed, but up to this point have been prohibited.

Also under review is the matter of "fair dealing." Under this category, copying done for the purpose of research or private study hasn't required permission.

However, it is not clear what is meant by "fair dealing" and clarification of the law is now being sought by both rights holders and users of copyright material.

For more information about CANCOPY, contact Labonte, who is the liaison between the college and CANCOPY, at 735-2211, Ext. 7799.



From left, Joe Eigner, secretary of the Welland Rotary Club, Dorry Timmers, Kay's Variety representative, Don Johnston, president of Rotary Club, Dan Patterson, Niagara College president, and Don Johnston, interim vice-chair and CEO of the Niagara College Foundation.

Photo by Jennifer Elliott

New campus gets $25,000

By JENNIFER ELLIOTT
Staff Writer

Don Johnston, president of the Welland Rotary Club, handed a cheque for $25,000 to Niagara College President Dan Patterson on Oct. 29.

The money is going to the Niagara College building fund for the new campus in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

"Without Kay's Variety we wouldn't have the money we got," says Johnston, explaining Kay's Variety donated $15,000 from Nevada ticket distribution.

Joe Eigner, secretary of the Rotary Club, says providing funds for important projects within the city is "great for the community."

Holding the $25,000 cheque, Patterson proudly says to Hans van der Slagt, the college's vice-president of administrative services, "This is a really nice feeling, isn't it."

United Way campaign going strong

By HEATHER HUNTER
Staff Writer

The United Way of South Niagara is in the fifth week of its 1996 campaign.

A mid-campaign review by United Way staff has shown seven per cent of the donations to date are from people or organizations who have not donated before or are corporate gifts.

Individuals who wish to support the United Way but are not connected to a workplace campaign may do so by calling the head office at the Seaway Mall in Welland.

A United Way Jail and Bail was held Oct. 25 in Welland and Port Colborne. For a fee, people were arrested and taken to a United Way jail. The bail, a donation to the United Way, was set by United Way judges to facilitate the person's release.

Welland and Port Colborne together raised $4,171.

On Oct. 26 at Rose City Seniors Centre in Welland, a murder was solved. Not only was the perpetrator caught, but a large sum of money was raised.

The three organizations that participated in the murder mystery were the United Way of South Niagara, Welland and Pelham Chamber of Commerce, and Welland Hospital Foundation. About $986 was raised.

Participation in special events in the community is one of the many ways to support the United Way and the people in the community.

In Memory

The staff of the Niagara News was saddened to hear of the death of St. Catharines Standard reporter Linda Shutt on Nov. 2.

Shutt, 44, died suddenly in a traffic accident near Brantford on her way to a journalism conference at the University of Western Ontario in London.

A number of our Jouralism-Print program students attended the conference, sponsored by the Ontario Reporters and Editors Organization of which Shutt was an executive member.

She was a graduate of Ryerson Polytechnic University in Toronto. The school is establishing the Linda Shutt Memorial Award.

She worked for The Standard since 1994, winning a Western Ontario Newspaper Award for novice reporters last spring.

The Ontario Provincial Police said Shutt lost control of her vehicle on an icy overpass on Highway 403 near Highway 2 at about 7 a.m.

Some of our reporters had the honour of knowing her professional basis. We share in the loss of this fine colleague.

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REMEMBRANCE DAY

Understanding the importance of the supreme sacrifice

By ADAM KIESWETTER
Staff Writer

At the height of honor, lies the supreme sacrifice; laying down one's life during time of conflict for the preservation of King, country and way of life.

As proud, free Canadians, most of us were taught in school or told by our parents of the Great War, or the Second World War, which laid waste to so many, in so many frightening new ways.

We have uncles, grandfathers and great-grandfathers or those who still vividly remember them, to tell us of the terrific toil they undertook against the hordes of oppression.

As Remembrance Day approaches on Nov. 11, the aura rising from Royal Canadian Legions across the country is glowing with an especially brilliant intensity, which is particularly prominent at this time of year.

While patiently preaching their reverent message throughout the year, legions take great pleasure in supporting their communities by aiding students, minor-league sports and various charitable organizations, says Barbara Blackmore, 68, president of Branch 350 Port Dalhousie Legion, in south St. Catharines.

"We do a lot of good work in our community," she says. "We like supporting youth, that's the one we really like to support because we hope the kids will remember in their late years that the Legion helped them."

Blackmore says she thinks "we are lacking in education in our schools about what happened, about the wars."

"In Holland, all the school children are taught right from the time they start school about the significance, whereas here, you don't get a thing and I think it's appalling."

The solemn soldier cenotaph in Port Dalhousie.

Photo by Adam Kieswetter

Legionnaires really enjoy talking to the children, says Blackmore, adding they usually hop at the chance to visit the schools.

She says it gives them a chance to get out and tell the youngsters how it all really happened.

"Some of the old boys laughingly say the first things kids want to know is how many people you killed. I don't think they understand, they know by watching TV — the pictures they see are just out of this world, but it's not really this world at all, what they don't understand is how it really was."

In order to improve the situation, Blackmore says Branch 350 is intending to approach local school boards with a proposal to increase their role in informing students about the true events of the past.

"I wish we could rectify this. We try to get things out in the area, with the papers and they just end up on the back page and that's not really where it belongs."

Blackmore's husband was a navy veteran of the Second World War, which makes her an associate member with the Legion. An associate member, she says, is a member who is married to or has a parent or grandparent who was in the service. An ordinary member is a veteran.

Blackmore lives in St. Catharines and has been a member for 15 years. She worked for Bell Canada and retired 12 years ago.

Of her time with the Legion, she says "its been interesting.

"I've worked harder now than I ever worked in my whole life. But I enjoy it. I think we try pretty hard, nobody tries harder than we do. This is a good branch, it's a busy branch, we have a lot of people who work really hard and that's the secret."

In the hustle and bustle of a rapidly-changing society, it's places like the Legion where you're always sure to be looked straight in the eye, be greeted with a hearty handshake and be assured the stories you hear are not the mere words of history books, but the truth from those who know.

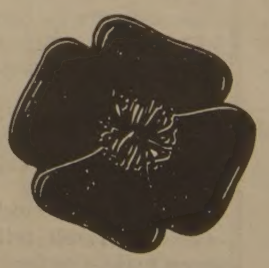
Legion Branch 350 is in downtown Port Dalhousie, about a 10-minute walk from a lonesome stone-soldier cenotaph which stands guard to honor the memory of fallen comrades.

The cenotaph was erected in 1924 and at the foot of the solemn soldier, inscribed on the hard base just below his feet is this message: *Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.*

In Flanders Fields

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved, and were loved,
and now we lie
In Flanders fields.



Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; by yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields

John McCrae

NIAGARA COLLEGE CANADA

Let us all remember to share in a moment of silence to honour those who have fought for our freedom.

—Niagara College President
Dan Patterson

"Lest We Forget – We Will Remember Them."

REMEMBRANCE DAY

— A Time For Heroes . . . —

11/11 at 11:00

A year's gone by and you are still my life, my heart, my love.
And we are your legacy, your daughters, we two,
and in our dreams forever, we'll remember you.
Loving you always, Moe.

In memory of our mother, Cynthia Turney.

You have done what you were meant to do in this lifetime,
we will meet again.
Know mother, we love you.
You are always welcome.
So mote it be.

Keri-Lynn and Ty

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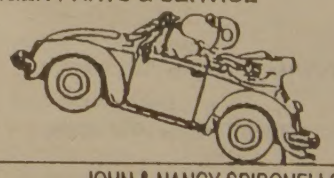

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EDITORIALS

Niagara News

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'Lest we forget'

Remembrance Day means many things to different people.

It was originally established "Lest we forget" the sacrifices of the soldiers of the First World War.

Then as more conflicts occurred and young men were sent across oceans to die for their countries and to defend freedom and our way of life, Remembrance Day became a time to reflect on their memories as well.

We observe one minute of silence, among the maelstrom of violence that still haunts the Earth today. But since there hasn't been a military conflict on the scale of the world wars in a couple of generations, many young people have forgotten what they are remembering on Nov. 11.

There is an important motive behind that moment of silence — that we are not allowed to forget the wars that decimated the global population. History can only teach us if it is remembered.

Every year on Nov. 11 "In Flanders Fields" is dragged out of storage, along with the veterans' berets and medals so that the sorrow of the last, violent century can be remembered. The memory of humanity seems to be slipping, and if it slips far enough, in the next few years, Rememberance Day will have new meaning after World War Three.

For now, sit and think of all those that gave their lives on foreign soil to stop the advance of megalomaniacal war-mongering and global domination.

They died in the name of their countries and for a better world. A world where people — most of whom these brave souls would never meet — look at some old picture and say "Grandpa?"

Thousands protest in Toronto

Mike Harris and his government's policies provoked one of the largest protests Canada and Ontario have ever seen.

Tens of thousands of marchers turned out to express their disapproval of the radical right-wing Harris government.

Although I did not attend the peaceful demonstrations, I had a chance to speak to many individuals who were part of the Metro Days of Action.

Contrary to Harris and his supporters, the gathering did not comprise merely special-interest groups. Individuals from a multitude of social, economic and educational backgrounds participated, many taking a stand for the first time in their lives.

Many Ontarians are becoming outraged over the deficit-slashing, mean-spirited policies of the Tories. Yes, some fundamental changes need to take place, but differences can be made without opting for such extreme measures.

As the Harris cuts take effect, his support in the polls will drop. More people will realize the detrimental impact those cuts will have.

And by the way, Mr. Harris, the greatest interest group of all is the people of Ontario speaking out.

Tories woo big business

By BRAD MOSCATO
Staff Writer

Mike Harris and the Progressive Conservative government are about accommodating the needs of big business.

His followers are people who think liberal economics — the law of supply and demand.

However, a government that allows the marketplace to become the focal point of its agenda must expect a deterioration of social conditions. In the marketplace, you can only assign prices to things; you cannot assign values.

Harris continues to overturn the principles of a democratic government. While he continues to cut social programs and slash government spending, he serves banks and large corporations all too well.

In turn, there is myriad of unemployment which allows a reduction in wages and a decaying working environment. This is good news to big business as they will emerge with even greater returns than they already attain.

The Metro Days of Action were organized for such reasons. They were rallies to try and quash the heavy-handed policies of the Harris government.

But the Ontario Tories will not listen and will not attempt to alter their agenda to satisfy their disaffected critics.

Harris will meet with critics, but blatantly inform them they cannot change his mind.

The Tories know who they have to woo to be re-elected. Everyone else — including students, teachers, nurses and organized labor — is of no concern.

Living life to the fullest

BY PENNI TONEGUZZO
Staff Writer

As life passes day by day, I realize how special life is.

I think of the future when my family and friends will pass away and meet me in the next world.

It hurts to think of this, but it's reality. Death is something that will happen to everyone.

It's also extremely hard to comfort someone who is dealing with death. What do you say? What do you do?

My point to all of this? Enjoy life. Don't take it for granted.

Life seems to be endless years of struggle and heartache, but before you know it — it's over.

Take advantage of the finer things in life: the air we breathe, the grass so green, the colors and animals that are wild and free.

The life **YOU** are living is the only one you've got.

If you have a dream or goal in life, pursue it — and don't give up.

It never hurts to show someone you care and are concerned about him or her.

And all of those little fights you had with people centuries ago, forgive and forget because they may be gone in the blink of an eye.

Do what you can do today because you may not be here tomorrow.

Your opinion counts

Your voice or opinion is welcome in our Letters to the Editor section. Our policy regarding letter submission is the following:

1. All letters must be received on the Friday one week prior to publication.

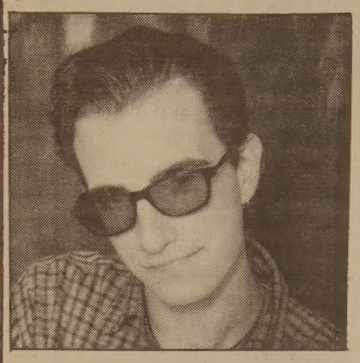
2. Each letter must include the student's name, college identification number and program of study.

3. All letters must be signed and include a day and evening phone number for verification use only.

All letters can be mailed or brought to the Niagara News newsroom, Rm. S212, Simcoe Building, Welland campus.

FROM THE HIP

Smokers lip-locked to the tobacco industry



By ADAM KIESWETTER
Staff Writer

When you French-kiss a snake, you're bound to be bit.

But you know how much fun kissing is.

We start young, with wee pecks, then as we stew in the juices of uncertain adolescence, We just can't get enough, partly because we crave it, but equally, because we find it's just the thing to do.

It's profusely naughty, terribly chic, and besides, it makes you feel accepted. It's something sacred. It's almost *addictive.*

But the lip service I'm talking about is a much more sinister kind of drug. This is about the biting lip-lock of the tobacco asp.

Yet while your standard fag can be compared to a tiny, lip-licking serpent, the tobacco industry itself is a cobra of such weight and magnitude, with such a deep-rooted nest woven in the economic fabric of our society, that any mention of its upheaval sends shivers through the skin of our land's legislators.

As stated in a recent study by the Physicians for a Smoke-Free Canada, the government takes in more than $180 million a year from the sale of cigarettes to underage smokers. But that's just the tip of this snake's tail.

Tobacco is one of the most highly taxed products in Canada. In fact, most of the money the cigarette manufacturers make goes directly to government coffers.

In 1995, of the $8 billion Canadians spent on tobacco, 62 per cent went to government, says a study by the federal Health Department.

High taxes were always meant as a deterrent, but escalated smuggling forced Ottawa to cut the price of a carton of cigarettes by half in 1994, costing them about $850 million in lost revenue.

When the government tried to clamp down on cigarette advertising last year, the Supreme Court of Canada struck the ban down, claiming it violated the industry's guaranteed rights in the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

Liberal Health Minister David Dingwall has since promised new tobacco-control legislation that will withstand court challenges, and hopefully not go up in smoke.

What makes this pledge to regulate especially slippery is the industry's saving-grace relationship with arts and sports groups who now receive some $60 million from tobacco companies in sponsorship funding.

We need to take back control of our own economy, and preserve public health through constricting advertising rights.

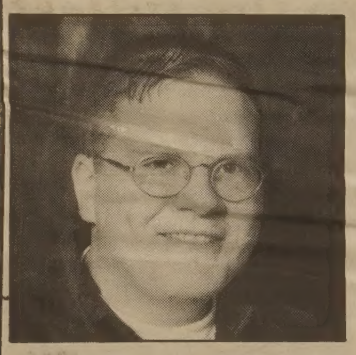
Cigarette companies prey on the weakness of the populace, and build upon the belief that they're an ironclad ingredient supporting our economy.

In an American study, it has been estimated that the health care costs for treating smoke-related illnesses is 10 times what the government makes in tobacco tax revenues.

Violating a section of the Charter of Rights by altering advertising laws, and enduring economic woe due to immediate lack of revenues, might seem like distasteful alternatives, but the long-term monetary benefits of a healthier population would certainly justify the means.

Most smokers probably never realized that a single experimental puff, one tiny peck by the paper-white tobacco asp, would lead to a lifetime of their backing a cancer-giving cause that specializes in manipulating them, sucking in their children, and melding them to the mold of the droning consumer.

Classroom attitude



By JASON YOUNG
Staff Writer

Are you happy at school?

As a student of academics are you satisfied with your choice to be here at the college?

It would be nice to think that all students are happy with their decision to be here, but what do you see when you look around at your classmates?

I am not one for 8:30 a.m. classes. I never bring my teachers apples, and my hand usually stays down during lectures.

As a student of academics, are you satisfied with your choice to be here at the college?

Doesn't this behavior seem to be a normal thing in everyone's classrooms? Can this be a new attitude that is sweeping through educational facilities country-wide?

I'm talking about the participation in and appreciation of our schools and what they truly stand for. In other words, the schools of higher learning, not higher earning.

Educational facilities were at one time feared by tyrannical national leaders because of the enthusiasm held bottled within their walls.

The leaders feared that a student's enthusiasm to learn would be dangerous to the rest of the country. Why? Because the fresh ideas, attitudes and reasoning that erupted from the schools appeared radical. It would mean change and evolution.

These changes were feared because they were for the good of society, not the bad. Sound scary?

In our times, and especially in our country, there seems to be a stragnation of fresh ideas.

Hey, I'm not dissin' what we've got. I do appreciate what we have, but if there were more exciting, helpful, insightful ideas that could be implemented . . . who knows?

Are today's students merely digesting knowledge halfheartedly and growing weaker in the process?

Do we need a type of educational vitamin boost to make us stronger? Or does everybody have the attitude that when we begin a career we can hide from any problems with a large bank account.

For many of us, it's easier to keep our hands down in class, our mouths shut, our pens doodling away or ourselves reclined back in the comforts of "pub-life."

Instead, we should perk up our attention levels, feel guilty for not appreciating our education, and learn from our instructors. I mean REALLY learn and make use of that knowledge. Not only for money but for society.

We're all lucky to be in school, so we should take advantage of the opportunities given to us. (Well, not really given. We're paying out of our _____.)

Do we need a type of educational vitamin boost to make us stronger?

All I'm implying is that we should be aware of the differences we can make via the education system.

If we only knew how much we could contribute back to society, we would wake up. I know I'm generalizing and wasting my megabyte, but I'll be in the pub if you want to discuss it. Goodnight.

Stereotyped

This is not a male-bashing column

By GRETTA ROSSI
Staff Writer

A stereotype is defined as "a person or thing that conforms to an unjustifiably fixed mental picture."

Is anyone else disturbed by the idea that you can be judged by what a small percentage of people in the past have or have not done?

Not only does this bother me, it affects me personally and I can't say that I am impressed.

Recently I was subjected to one such stereotype. I found myself in the position of needing my car repaired away from my usual mechanic. Despite everything that I have ever been told, I took my car to someone that I didn't know.

I suppose I am naive but in an effort to be fair I got an estimate to prove to the collective male gender that just because I am female does not mean that I am a body without a brain.

It would appear that, in fact, that I am brainless if you judge by the conclusions one would draw from the amount of my estimate.

To be completely honest, my reaction to the money that I was expected to spend was shock beyond the point of speech. (To my friends, this is a calendar event.)

Rather than pay this amount, I had my car towed two hours to my mechanic and repaired at a cost less than my estimator's total for the needed parts, never mind the labor costs.

A person or thing that conforms to an unjustifiably fixed mental picture.

This is not a male-bashing column, but it is an attempt to make people of all genders, races, and cultures aware that there is a word to describe this attitude: Stereotype.

The nature of humanity is a celebration of differences. These differences are what define us as individuals, yet we still condemn people by confining them to stereotypes.

Individual, particular, distinctive, the free action of being human. Why not?

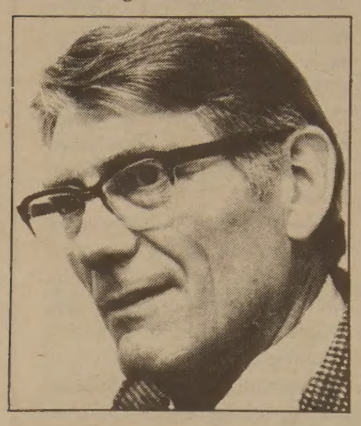
Former teacher left fond memories

'There was nothing he would not do to help a student'

By MELISSA LABBE and HYOJEONG KIM
Staff Writers

A former Niagara College teacher has left many colleagues and students with "precious" memories.

Eugene Maltais, who taught politics at Niagara College for 22 years, died of lung cancer on Oct. 24.



EUGENE MALTAIS (1982)

"There are some people who are lighthouses," said Erika Church, an English teacher. "Eugene was one of those people. He was a person of strength, of compassion and of faith. There was nothing he would not do to help a student."

"He was always willing to help after class even when all the others were gone," said Student Administrative Council President Jason Chase.

"When I was a Journalism-Print program student, I was in charge of distribution (the delivery of the Niagara News). He made sure his mother got a copy, especially if he was mentioned in it."

Chase said he thinks students' smiles were the best form of gratitude shown to Maltais.

"He was very supportive to both students and faculty. He was always there to give me and students a hand," said Bill Munroe, who teaches computer classes in the Human Relations program.

"He had a unique teaching style," said Chris Carey, 24, an Interactive Multimedia post-diploma program student. "He was always in a good mood when he was teaching, as if he really enjoyed it."

Carey, then a second-year General Arts and Science program student, was in Eugene's politics class last year.

"The thing that impressed me the most was his enthusiasm and energy in everything he did. He put his whole heart into everything," said Jan Potton, a colleague and friend for 22 years.

Potton, a psychology teacher, and Maltais organized the blood donor clinics at the college for 20 years.

In her eulogy, Potton remembered how Maltais got her involved with the Red Cross. "Eugene called me asking if I might be willing to give one hour a month to the Red Cross. Hesitantly, I agreed to attend the next meeting.

"Imagine my surprise when I casually glanced at the agenda and learned that the board was welcoming me as their second vice-president and First Aid chairperson."

While volunteering at the Red Cross, Maltais held various positions on the board, including president, vice-president, public relations chairperson and finance resource chairperson.

Rosemary Chupik, branch manager of the Canadian Red Cross Society in Welland, said he was "absolutely incredible" as the finance resource chairperson.

"He had more motivation than anyone . . . A lot of people didn't realize how much (volunteer work) he did."

Potton said the help he gave to everyone was given "silently."

Maltais received Canada's 125th Commemorative Anniversary medal in 1992, as an outstanding individual for his volunteer work.

"He was a wonderful teacher," said Jacquie Robarts, a former Niagara College president from 1978 to 1990.

"He cared about students so much. Students never complained about him. He helped his students with their private problems.

"He is the one who got me involved with the Red Cross," said Robarts, who served as president of the Red Cross in Welland from 1992 until earlier this year.

'The thing that impressed me the most was his enthusiasm and energy ... He put his whole heart into everything.'

- Jan Potton

The Red Cross office was closed Oct. 28, so members could attend his funeral.

In her eulogy, Potton shared a paragraph of a letter Eugene wrote her when her father died:

"I know that people will say it was for the best and things like that, but (this) does not stop the sense of sadness and loneliness I am sure you are feeling at the loss of your father. There is one consolation. You will think often of your Dad in the next few years and relive many happy and significant times that you had together. I urge you to get a little book and write them down, as these memories are more precious than gold."

After the funeral mass at St. Kevin's Church in Welland, Niagara College President Dan Patterson said, "Eugene Maltais will be always a household name at Niagara College. Jan Potton's eulogy at the funeral mass was so moving and a wonderful tribute. I'm sure he was smiling at us during the mass."

Karen Moreau-Petti, a teacher in the college's Law and Security Administration program, said one of the outstanding things about him was his "unique" sense of humor that everyone could appreciate.

"He reminded me of Tigger from Winnie the Pooh . . . Looking at Tigger, he says 'Ta-ta for now,' and it was always 'Cheerio' with Eugene. Whenever he left a message on my answering machine or signed off after talking, it would always be 'Cheerio!' I always loved that about him," said Moreau-Petti.

In 1989, Maltais established the Royal Canadian Legion political science scholarship.

Moreau-Petti said he approached the Legion asking it to set up scholarship fund for students. Each year the scholarship awards $200 to a leading politics student.

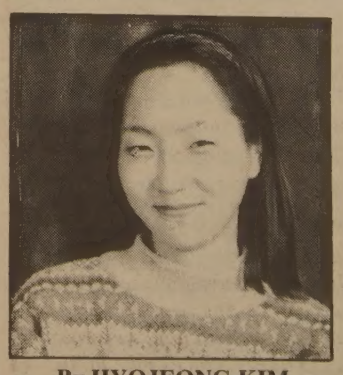
For a number of years, Maltais organized school trips to Ottawa to get his students directly involved in politics.

Moreau-Petti said students would go on tours of the Parliament buildings, and meet the prime minister and the Speaker of the House.

"The Legion scholarship and the trips to Ottawa are good examples of how Eugene cared very much for his students," said Moreau-Petti.

Eugene Maltais organized a class trip to Ottawa during the constitutional debates in 1982. From left are former Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau, Welland-Thorold MP and present House of Commons Speaker Gib Parent , Maltais, a student and Karen Moreau-Petti, a college teacher.
Photo submitted by Karen Moreau-Petti

Eugene Maltais portrayed truest Canadian



By HYOJEONG KIM
Staff Writer

If there was anyone who I wish I would have known earlier, it was Eugene Maltais.

He was the one who showed me the image of a great teacher.

From last September to December, he taught me not only Canadian politics but also Canadian culture and people.

If other people did just one of the many things he did in his life, they would consider it as their life's accomplishment.

The things his friends and students told me about him were just unbelievable.

A devoted teacher, an active community volunteer, a respected colleague, and a loving husband and father — this was Eugene Maltais. I found him everywhere at the college.

While interviewing people about him and reading the information I got from them, I couldn't stop crying and laughing.

Eugene Maltais was a devoted teacher, an active community volunteer and a respected colleague.

I cried not only because I was sad but because he touched so many people; I laughed not only because of his sense of humor, but because of the fun he had with his students.

When I was taking his politics class last year, he used to ask me about my home country — Korea: its culture, politics, and customs.

Once I drew Korean traditional clothes for him and brought two little dolls wearing Korean traditional clothes to class. I remember how glad he was.

The day when he had the Royal Canadian Legion political science scholarship award ceremony in class, he asked me to write a column about the ceremony especially for him.

Actually, I was embarrassed. At that point, I wasn't really sure how to write a column, so I couldn't.

This was the only upsetting memory I have with Mr. Maltais; I wish I could have overcome my embarrassment and just found a way to write the column.

I still remember the mornings when I would wait for his cheerful salute, **"GOOD MORNING!"** and his bright smile.

He will be the truest Canadian I ever keep in my heart.

A short profile of Eugene Maltais

By MELISSA LABBE
and HYOJEONG KIM
Staff Writers

Eugene Maltais was a dedicated teacher, an active volunteer with the Canadian Red Cross Society, a world traveller and an environmentalist.

Jan Potton, a Niagara College psychology teacher and a longtime friend of Eugene's, said he grew up in a "tiny town" in Alberta and his parents were "very poor."

His family moved to a bigger city when his elementary school teachers said he had "great potential," and his parents should consider providing him with a better high school education.

"When he was in Grade 12, he received the Governor General's Medal.

His parents were so proud because his family had moved specifically for his education and he did so well," said Potton.

She said Eugene was a "very religious Catholic," and whenever he went up to receive Holy Communion, he impressed the priest by answering in Latin.

Maltais got his bachelor of science and masters of arts degrees at the University of Alberta, and his bachelor of education degree at the University of Calgary.

He put himself through the University of Alberta when studying for his bachelor of science degree by working summers with the university naval training division.

He was away on the boats, sailing to earn his next year's tuition.

Potton said if his mother had a spare dollar, she would send it to him. He was "limping along" financially.

In 1964, he taught English for a year in Barcelona, Spain. Another year he taught in Darby, England.

At one point, he was a high school science teacher.

Already interested in science, he made the switch to political science while at the University of Calgary.

In 1974, he came to Welland on his own from Alberta for a job interview and the opportunity to teach politics at Niagara College.

Potton said he travelled a lot of places in the world. He hitchhiked throughout Europe with his Canadian flag — "the stick stuck into his belt, using his fingers to stretch the flag out and his thumb up asking for a ride."

He married Robina in 1958. Together they had two children: Marie and Mark, who are both in their thirties. Robina recently retired from her job at Sunset Haven.

He was "just as involved as a family man," said Potton.

Marie said whenever her father travelled, he and his family stayed in "primitive lodgings" because he wanted to experience the culture.

"He fell in love with Mexico, especially the Mayas," said Potton.

Every March Break he and his wife would go down to the Yucatan where the Mayan ruins are. He did the research himself to teach his elective class, Mysteries of Mayas.

Potton said one of the things he wanted to do was to work hands on with Father Joe McGoogan in the Dominican Republic.

"The Father is very involved with people," said Potton. "Gene sent him things - tools and books. His plan was for him and his wife to live there for a while and help the Father.

"Because he grew up so poor, he saved every piece of binder twine, wire, elastic, paper towel."

Potton said his daughter Marie remembers sitting on the porch helping him grind down and straighten used nails because he didn't want to throw them away.

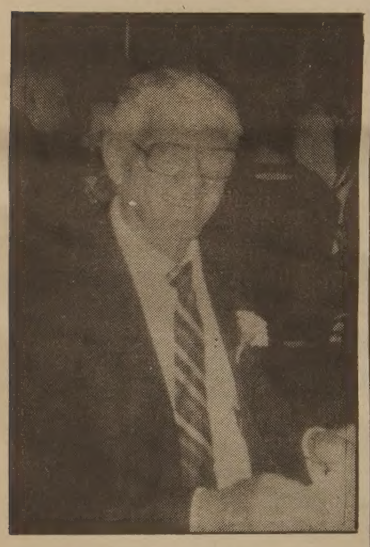
"This environmentalist never threw anything away. He always found a secondary purpose for things," she said.

When Maltais retired last December, he left everything he thought would be helpful to anyone, said Bruce Tallon, co-ordinator of General Education.

Tallon took over his office. "He didn't really waste anything."

Maltais proudly displays one of his artifacts for a picture taken in September 1995.

Photo by Debbie Cunningham



EUGENE MALTAIS

Thank you

On behalf of the staff of the Niagara News, we would like to express our sincerest sympathies to the family and friends of Eugene Maltais.

Personally, we would like to give special thanks to **Jan Potton** and **Karen Moreau-Petti**, both longtime friends and colleagues of Eugene for the anecdotes, memories, information and pictures they shared with us.

Hyojeong Kim and Melissa Labbe

Niagara College shows respect for Eugene Maltais.

Photo by Keri-Lynn Smith

Maltais' thumbprint will last forever

By KERI-LYNN SMITH
Staff Writer

Eugene Maltais was my teacher for just one course, one semester.

It was the last Introduction to Government class he taught before retiring.

Maybe someone who knew him longer would be better suited to writing this. Maybe not.

The very fact a student who knew him for such a short period of time could be so moved by him says much more about his character than mine.

Eugene was witty and charming. For every lesson he taught he always had an anecdote in tow. He approached each class with enthusiasm and never without the famous twinkle in his soft eyes.

It was well-known his exams were among the hardest at the school, and he was proud they were. They were application exams, he would tell us, so we had to apply our knowledge rather than just repeat what we'd learned. So we really learned. Eugene made sure of it.

He'd seen it all, done it all, but his quest for knowledge was insatiable. He was interested in everything.

Everything but retiring.

A few days after he announced to our class last December it was time for him to leave, I went to find him to say goodbye.

"I'm sorry you have to go," I told him.

"I don't want to go" was his reply.

When I heard he was dying, I was in shock.

He was invincible. I told myself I should send him a card or call him.

Again, there were no words.

There were no words kind enough or pretty enough to let him know how much I admired him.

There were no words kind enough or pretty enough to let him know how much I admired him.

Anyone who knew him would not be surprised to hear he cried then, or that I did too. He had a way of looking into the soul of every person he met, and leaving his thumbprint there.

I scrambled for words to let him know how he inspired me, but there were none to suffice. Instead I just hugged him and hoped he knew.

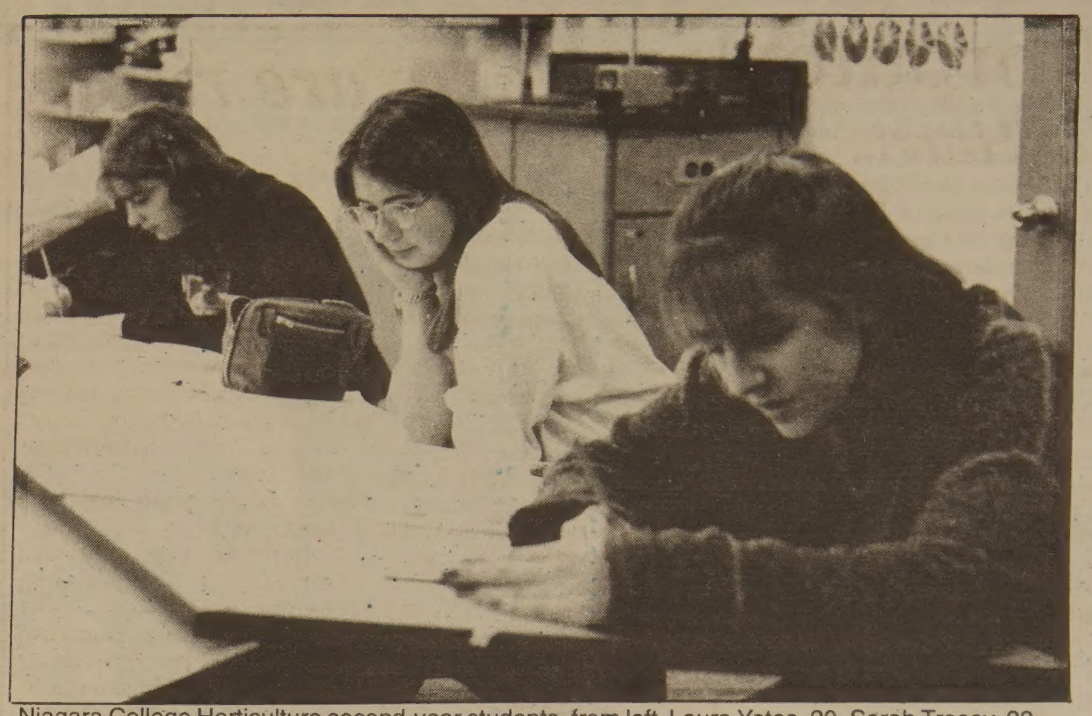
He knew.

Perspective

I am standing on the seashore.
A ship spreads her sails to the morning breeze and starts for the ocean.
I stand watching her until she fades on the horizon, and someone at my side says, "She is gone!"
"Gone where?"
The loss of sight is in me, not in her.
Just at the moment when someone says, "She is gone!" there are others watching her coming. Others' voices take up the glad shout, "Here she comes!"
And that is dying.

— Henry Scott Holland

HORTICULTURE



Niagara College Horticulture second-year students, from left Laura Yates, 20, Sarah Tracey, 22, and Michelle Taraba, 20, working on landscape design drawings.

Photo by Katherine Nadeau

Dried flowers for use in the floral design class. Arrangements will be on display at the centre's open house next spring.

Photo by Katherine Nadeau

Second-year student Laura Yates is working on mums at the Horticulture Centre in St. Catharines.

Photo by Derrick Vander-Lely

Niagara College Horticultural Centre is open to the public for the purchase of hanging baskets, bedding plants, Easter lillies, and geraniums in season. The centre is at 360 Niagara St., in St. Catharines, and is open Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Poinsettia sales will begin the first week of December. Students are responsible for production and sale of poinsettias. Profits go toward the purchasing of plant material and equipment.

The Niagara College Horticulture Centre in St. Catharines.

Photo by Katherine Nadeau

POLITICS

Protesters unite in Toronto

Thousands express outrage at Harris

By BRAD MOSCATO
Staff Writer

Thousands of people demonstrated to express outrage over Mike Harris and his government's policies on Oct. 25 and 26.

Protestors recently united to stage the Days of Action in Metro Toronto.

Those who rallied targeted 300 sites across greater Toronto in an effort to shut down the city.

"There were at least 150,000 people present," said Welland-Thorold New Democrat MPP Peter Kormos.

Picketers marched through the downtown core to the provincial legislature at Queen's Park. Along the way, they passed the Metro Convention Centre, where Harris and his backbenchers were involved in a Tory policy convention.

"What I would appreciate the protesters doing is to sit down and document out what their concerns are," said St. Catharines-Brock Tory MPP Tom Froese.

Froese indicated a possibility of policy changes if recommendations were given that would still allow the government to keep its fiscal responsibility.

However, members of the opposition and government critics disputed the backbencher's remarks.

"Tory backbenchers aren't inclined to say what they mean," said Kormos.

Dr. Douglas B. Rogers, a teacher at Niagara College and member of the Golden Horseshoe Social Action Committee, expressed similar concerns: "Tom Froese really has no interest in consultation."

Rogers said the Tory MPP did not attend any of the committee's gatherings that he was invited to.

Disgruntled social activists, nurses, teachers, students, civil servants and off-duty police officers were at the rally, where, according to police estimates, 75,000 demonstrators marched in an orderly and peaceful manner.

"The stunning thing about the Metro Days of Action was the sheer variety of people protesting," said Rogers.

The protests that hit Canada's largest city were the fifth in an ongoing effort to curb the policies of Harris' Tory government.

The Conservative cuts include hospital closings, changes to welfare, civil service layoffs and education reform.

"This government is destroying life for the vast majority of people who live in Ontario," Rogers said.

New Democrat Peter Kormos denounced the government's handing over of public assets to the private sector. Kormos said the Tory motive is primarily for profit.

Now that the five-city demonstrations are over, labor is unsure what to do next.

Possibilities range from a provincewide strike to bringing the NDP government back to power.

Rogers said gradually more and more people are coming to the realization that access to valuable public assets is being restricted.

"Stronger action may be needed to get the government to back off.

"I think a general strike is a definite possibility," said Rogers.

Numbers are rising

5,006 students enrol

By HEATHER BURTON
Staff Writer

Niagara College enrolment has climbed eight per cent over last year.

The figure is good news when compared to other colleges in Ontario, which have recorded a zero per cent enrolment increase.

The statistics are from the Ontario Ministry of Education and Training, which issued a fall enrolment report on Nov 1.

"It's a fairly healthy increase," said Al Vaughan, Niagara College registrar.

The total enrolment at the college for 1996 is 5,006 students.

Vaughan said students are realizing Niagara offers a lot of programs with the co-op option.

These students "tend to get a higher placement rate" after graduation, he said.

An "invitational college" with an emphasis on orientation has also aided in the enrolment increase.

"A lot of little things added up together to make (Niagara College) a better place to come for students," Vaughan said.

Enrolment in the four major program divisions has increased since 1995.

In the applied arts programs, there was a 1.1 per cent increase.

In the business programs, there was a 12.9 per cent increase.

In the technology programs, there was a 50 per cent increase.

However, the health sciences programs decreased by 21.1 per cent.

The overall enrolment for 1996 increased by 310 students, a 6.6 per cent increase over 1995.

The variety of post-diploma programs being offered at the college, and an overall increase in enrolment for technology-related courses, such as mechanical engineering, manufacturing, computers, electrical and electronics have helped increase the college's enrolment.

Most Canadians agree - don't test on animals

By BRAD MOSCATO
and JHIM BURWELL
Staff Writers

According to an Angus Reid poll, three-quarters of Canadians oppose animal testing for cosmetic purposes.

About the same number of Canadians agreed safe and accurate alternatives should be developed with 90 per cent believing alternative testing should be used if it is a safe and reliable procedure.

"Not tested on animals," "cruelty free" and "against animal testing" are common statements on cosmetic and toiletry products.

However, tens of thousands of animals are killed in tests throughout the world.

"We know that young people are very passionate about this issue," Margot Franssen, president and partner in the Body Shop, Canada, said in a recent press release.

She said youth who use their purchasing power can ban animal testing for cosmetics simply by not buying products that are tested on animals.

The Body Shop encourages young people to educate themselves about the cruelty issue.

Their "Against Animal Testing" information package includes broadsheets on animal testing and "question cards" listing pertinent questions to ask about cosmetic companies' practices.

If you are concerned about a company's products, some of the inquiries included in the package are, "Do you refuse to conduct animal tests on your cosmetic products and ingredients?" and "Do you support the development of alternatives to replace current animal tests for cosmetic purposes?"

One of the alternatives suggested is the human patch test, where human volunteers have strips applied to their skin in sensitive areas such as the forearm, for up to 48 hours.

"We hope to stimulate discussion about this (Against Animal Testing) and other important issues, as education is the first step to effective, positive change," Franssen said.

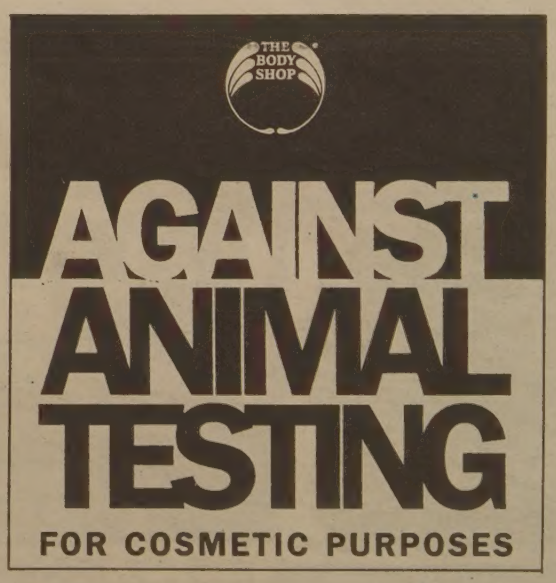
The "Against Animal Testing Fund" is a non-profit, charitable fund that provides grants to those working in the field of alternative research.

The Body Shop strongly adheres to its rule that the company will not purchase any ingredient that has been tested or re-tested on animals for cosmetic purposes after Dec. 31, 1990.

Suppliers to the Body Shop must provide written confirmation every six months indicating that all ingredients supplied comply with their purchasing rule.

The cosmetic company's corporate goal is to achieve a worldwide ban on animal testing.

Body Shop Canada has a new web site about "Against Animal Testing" that features a curriculum guide, lesson plan and background information on the program.



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Don't forget

By JENNIFER ELLIOTT
Staff Writer

There will be a workshop geared to answer all questions regarding repayment to the Ontario Student Assistance Program.

A representative from the CIBC bank will be on campus to prepare students for repayment plans and discuss the various options available.

Student Loan Repayment, The Next Step will be held in the Secord Room between 1:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m., on Nov. 21.

JUSTICE

Rocky to the rescue

Constable Bill Harris with PSD Rocky.

Photo by Janice Poole

Steal grip

By JANICE POOLE
Staff Writer

Police Service Dog (PSD) Rocky protected his handler after an armed robbery in Niagara Falls.

On Oct. 1, shortly after 10 p.m., a lone male entered Pharmashield Pharmacy at 5400 Portage Rd.

The male indicated he had a gun and demanded various narcotics. He followed the pharmasist to the narcotics safe where he selected what he wanted.

A male employee of the pharmacy tried to intervene and he too was threatened. Prior to leaving the pharmacy, the male removed a quantity of money from the cash registar.

The Niagara Regional Police were notified and several officers attended the scene.

After the suspect was located a short time later, the male attacked the handler, Constable Bill Harris, and was quickly subdued by PSD Rocky. The male was transported to the Greater Niagara General Hospital in Niagara Falls where he refused treatment for minor dog-bite wounds.

HAVE YOU HEARD?

Constable Dave Meade, the handler of PSD Onyx, poses with his new recruit PSD Echo.

Photo by Janice Poole

Campus crime

By JANICE POOLE
Staff Writer

Welland campus crime is on the rise.

"There have been 31 thefts since Sept. 3," said Diane McMillian, site supervisor of campus security for three years.

McMillan said that one-half of the thefts have been credit cards, mainly those of faculty members and support staff.

Other things stolen include a VCR, a car, two car stereos stolen in broad daylight, three radios from the Law and Security Administration (LASA) program and even staff lunches.

"There was definitely evidence of an attempted theft of another vehicle," said McMillian. "These are all ongoing investigations with the Niagara Regional Police."

Regional Crime Stoppers is offering a reward for information regarding any of the stolen property.

Anyone with information can call the security office at extension 7768 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-263-8477. You will not have to reveal your identity.

"Be careful with your personal belongings. That really can't be stressed enough," said McMillian. "Be aware of what goes on around you. Anything suspicious or even seemingly unimportant should be reported so it can be followed up on," said McMillian.

CRIME STOPPERS OF NIAGARA

Dangerous drivers

By JANICE POOLE
Staff Writers

Crime Stoppers would like your help getting some unlicensed drivers out from behind the wheel, and off our highways.

You're driving down the road and suddenly you collide with another car. Instead of getting out and checking to see if everyone is all right, the driver speeds off before you've had a chance to get the licence plate number.

One of the reasons for this happening so frequently is because those people are either unlicenced, or uninsured or both.

People lose their licence for a variety of reasons including impaired driving convictions, unpaid fines, serious driving infractions or because they never bothered to get a licence.

When one of these drivers tangles with you and leaves the scene, you end up being the loser.

If you know someone who is driving a car without a licence, or without insurance, call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-263-8477, or 1-800-222-TIPS to be eligible for a cash award up to $1,000.

In all cases, you will not have to reveal your identity.

Panoramic print unparalleled

By JANICE POOLE
Staff Writer

The limited-edition print, Bringing The Colors Home, was unveiled at police headquarters in St. Catharines during the Police Services Board meeting.

Maria Klokkou, the artist, said each of the scenes in the print were picked by the mayors of the municipality they represent.

The new Niagara Regional Police Service crest will go in the bottom right corner and they will "try to keep the Queen's signature with the crest," said Klokkou.

The print will go from this stage to the graphic artist and will be limited to 1,000 copies.

"The print will be given to those who donate $75 or more as a sign of our appreciation," said Niagara Regional Police Chief J. Grant Waddell at the meeting on Oct. 24.

Waddell said the police are trying to reach a target figure of $35,000 to cover the cost of replacing the old logo with the new one.

"I love to use my talent to help the community," said Klokkou after the meeting. The print "will be very collectable, I think."

British artist Maria Klokkou stands beside her print after the Police Services Board meeting on Oct. 24.

Photo by Janice Poole

Klokkou is a self-taught British artist. For eight years, she owned and managed her own art gallery on the Romney Marsh in Kent, England.

After being invited to exhibit alongside Canadian artists in various North American art shows, Klokkou decided to further her exploration into the North American art world and emigrated here in 1992.

After successfully running an Art gallery in St. Catharines for one year, Klokkou now works out of her own studio in Niagara Falls.

She is quickly gaining a reputation for her dramatic large floral canvases in oil.

Klokkou could be described as an imaginative and versatile artist. Working in oil, watercolor and pencil, she is constantly producing pieces in all mediums.

Klokkou has exhibited worldwide and as a result, many of her works hang in International collections.

NIAGARA COLLEGE
Applied Arts and Technology
WELLAND CAMPUS
LEARNING
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FEATURES

Rapelje establishes relaxing environment

By BRAD MOSCATO
Staff Writer

At this time of year, it becomes apparent, with mid-terms and countless assignments, just how one is progressing in the academic scope.

If you're becoming overwhelmed and ache for some rest, your wish is only a few steps away.

For scores of Niagara College students, the student centre epitomizes all the virtues of a relaxing, care-free environment.

An ever-present figure at the centre is Dave Rapelje, the student life manager.

'I sometimes think I'm a cowboy.'

Rapelje's legacy won't be imprinted on your timetable; his greatest contribution will be found in After Hours, the student pub.

Rapelje is in his third year as student life manager and he continues to display his energetic nature.

"This is one of the best jobs I've ever had, and I've had many," he said.

With a strong educational background — graduating from the Law and Security Administration program at the college and later emerging from university with a master's degree in clinical psychology — Rapelje encountered a variety of occupations before landing his job at the college.

There is a sense of raw promise that is difficult to escape in Rapelje's office. The notion of unlimited possibilites is especially strong.

Last year, with the excess revenue generated from After Hours, a new patio was erected to enhance the pub's image.

"Next year, if we generate the profit, we would like to put up six web sites. Students can use the chat lines that regular computer labs don't allow."

Rapelje said he is responsible for the daily operation and administration of the student centre. The centre is owned and operated by the Student Administrative Council.

"This is a non-profit sharing structure and I am very content with that."

The positive thing about this idea is that students get to come out and support their own building, Rapelje said.

"Any dollars that we make go immediately into the building."

Rapelje's capacity for hard work has established a solid reputation for Niagara College and its student pub, After Hours.

"Because we have established ourselves, because we do good shows and because we do a lot of volume in shows, we get a lot of co-operation from a lot of bands," he said.

"This year I have one of the best staffs we have ever put together."

Dave Rapelje and his horse Bo.

Photo by Jhim Burwell

Rapelje's positive attitude, coupled with the pub's success, is a fitting sentiment for an institution whose other defining qualities are its excellent programs and its desire to make students feel at home.

"The pub is definitely a relaxing environment," said Dan Lessard, a Niagara College computer programming student. "Pub night always ends up being a good time."

Rapelje said the support of After Hours has been positive right down to college President Dan Patterson, who approved the popular Patterson Burger for the pub.

The centre not only provides students with a solid environment, but offers available alternatives to help students choose wisely when drinking, he said.

Niagara was the only community college in Ontario ever to receive the Liquor License Board of Ontario Responsible Service Award.

Rapelje said the award is presented "to persons or people" who develop programs encouraging the responsible use of alcohol.

Credentials such as these reinforce the college's appeal for academic and social pursuits.

Rapelje said there have been countless entertainers he has admired; however, he did admit that Crappy the Clown was his personal favorite.

Students have had the privilege to see a number of bands over the past year, including treble charger, glueleg, The Killjoys and recently Furnace Face.

"Some good bands and comedians have entertained at the pub," said Jeff Taylor, a second-year broadcasting student at Niagara College.

Taylor said he also enjoys the free pool that is offered.

"I pride myself on running a good show," said Rapelje.

Aside from his role as student life manager, Rapelje commits himself to other activities.

To counter everyday stress, he said he loves to ride his horse and dreams of taking part in a rodeo.

"I'll ride out at 6 a.m. when the sun comes out and I sometimes think I'm a cowboy."

Orientation office takes a break

By BRANDY FORD
Staff Writer

The Access and Student Success office at Niagara College's Welland campus can relax. At least for a while.

"It is a transitional period," said Brigitte Chiki, director of the office.

"The loose ends from September orientation are being tied up and we're already looking forward to the January orientation."

Although co-ordinators of the January 1997 orientation have not yet met as a committee, Chiki said last year's breakfast format will probably be repeated.

In January 1996, new students were invited to a breakfast in the cafeteria at the Welland campus. After breakfast the day was filled with special events, information sessions and prize give-aways.

"We found it to be very successful, and the students liked it," Chiki said.

Input by students and staff on ways to improve orientation is welcome by the committee, she said.

"Whatever recommendations and suggestions have come forward from either students or staff . . . we will implement."

Annual open house for Maid of Mist Centre

By GRETTA ROSSI
Staff Writer

Niagara College's Maid of the Mist Centre in Niagara Falls will have its annual open house tomorrow from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The event is being organized by Dave Taylor, the centre's director.

It is an effort by the campus to raise community awareness by welcoming the public, prospective students and local businesses into the school to see what goes on, he said. "It's an opportunity to meet the people at the Centre."

The Maid of the Mist Centre operates a dining facility named the Kerrio Room, catering to private and business parties.

"We want to raise awareness so the community at large can take advantage of what we offer," said Taylor.

This is also an opportunity for potential students to visit and talk with the faculty and students about the programs offered at the campus.

Some of the days events include demonstrations in breadcraft, soup making, wine tasting, cooking and baking.

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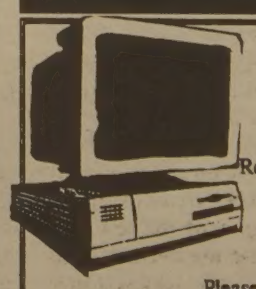

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ENTERTAINMENT

After Hours adds magic trio to comedy night

By JEFF GARRETT
Staff Writer

It was a night of magic.

Three magicians performed at After Hours on Oct. 30.

The first magician was Glenn Ottaway, of Whitby, who focused more on comedy than magic.

Ottaway performed at the college for his third time.

"I like performing here and Brock because it's a very comfortable feeling here."

Ottaway has been doing comedy for about 25 years.

"I like my job. It's better than working in a ditch somewhere," he said.

"I always wanted to do some form of entertainment as a kid, but right now I'd rather do comedy than magic."

Ottaway said there's a "huge" difference between post-secondary schools and comedy clubs because "people in a comedy club are in a different state of mind. They're more forgiving than a school would be.

"Our strategy of performing is on a different level than other stand-up comics because we have a lot of respect for the audience," said Ottaway. "We all use volunteers from the audience. We get them involved."

The second performer was Scott Norman (The Juggling Guy), 38, of Brantford.

Norman's act consisted of juggling routines ranging from rubber balls, cigar boxes, and plastic balls, to flaming torches.

"I saw someone juggle cigar boxes on the Ed Sullivan Show when I was a kid, so I decided to match his routine and then some.

"All I have to say is that I'm glad I'm here. There's no regrets toward my job," said Norman.

Thom Barnett, 32, of London, Ont., was the final performer of the night.

Barnett also focused more on the magic than comedy.

"You get comics today who slam the driving acts, but they ask for rides to the gigs," he said, adding "they're contradicting."

Scott Norman, of Brantford, Ont., performs one of his juggling acts at After Hours.

Photo by Jeff Garrett

Barnett has been doing professional magic for about 14 years, but had never visited Niagara College.

"It's a great job. You're always looking for new stage shows, trying new things. It gives me a great income and time to myself."

Barnett first got a magic kit when he was eight and pursued magic tricks ever since.

"I got out of magic when I was about 19 because I went into the Armed Forces, but I only served for a year and a half because I realized I didn't take orders too well.

"My type of job is a great stepping stone to psychology," said Barnett.

All three performers used to work together at the Little Night Magic in Toronto. The trio worked there for 10 years until it closed down two years ago.

All three decided to go their own way, but Ottaway stated: "We get back together for the odd tour."

Furnace Face gives Halloween show at After Hours

By ROBERT HALLETT
Staff Writer

They have come with a message.

Furnace Face, from Ottawa, played in After Hours on Halloween at 1 p.m.

"This is the earliest we've ever played," says Tom Stewart, 33, the band's bass player.

Pat Banister, 29, plays guitar and Dave Dudley, 31, plays drums.

The band is touring to promote their fourth album, **Unsafe at any Speed**.

The band plays a hard-core, punk-rock style of music, or as Stewart says,"intelligent, powerful rock."

Banister says it is more like a "punk-rock with a twist."

The band has been together for quite a while. "We've played together as a band for over 10 years," says Stewart.

The band has toured Canada, from St. John's, Nfld., to Victoria, B.C. They say their favorite clubs are in Calgary, Alta., Edmonton, Alta., Birdland in Halifax, N.S., and all of Newfoundland.

The band has toured with bands like Trigger Happy, Punch Buggy, Steve Miller, Bryan Adams, Sass Jordan, and Extreme. Before Moist's big album came out, they were the opening band for Furnace Face.

The band says some of their influences are Husher Doo, No Means No, old punk stuff, really old 1940s to 50s country.

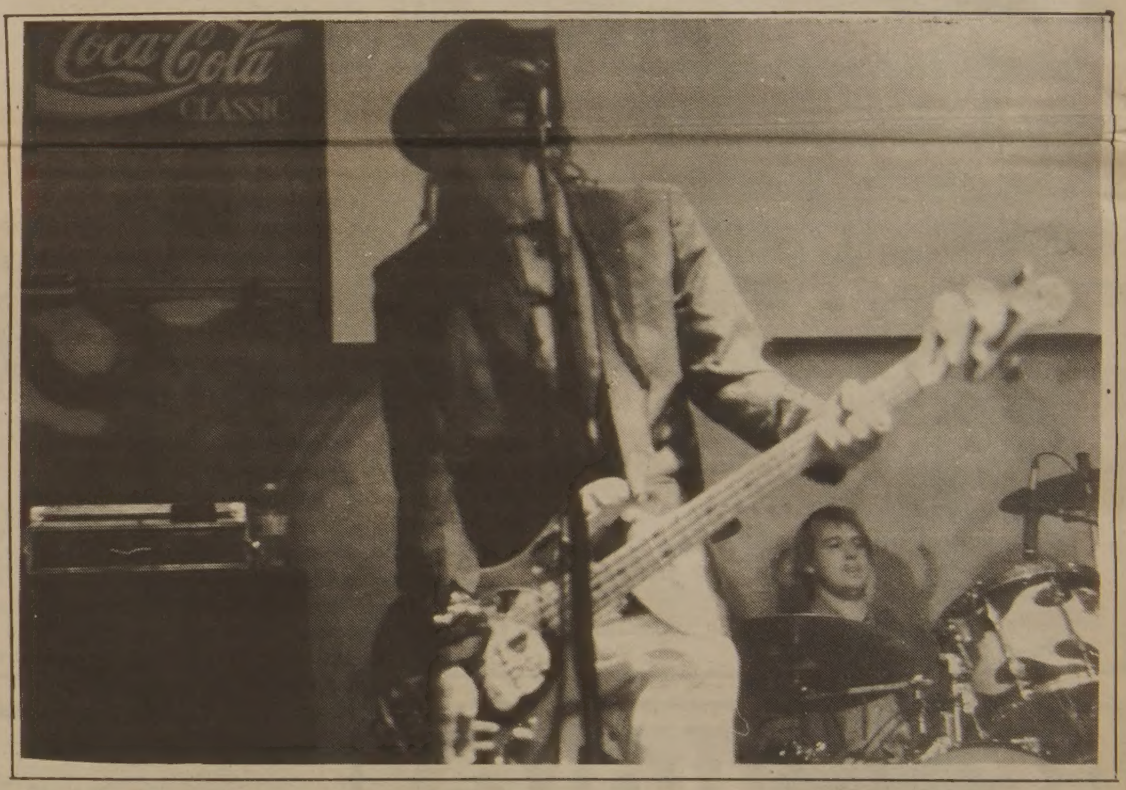
"We're really into different stuff," says Stewart.

Some of their favorite songs to play are *Government Check*, and most of the songs off their new album. Their records are produced by an independent record company called Cargo Records Canada.

Their message is "to buy our records, and to call up Much Music and request (our) video for the song *Slip and Stumble*."

They say this because they want people to hear their music and their sound, not because they want money.

Both Stewart and Dudley have other full-time jobs. Banister has a contract job, so they are not in this for the money. They say they play just for the fun of playing, for the thrill of rocking and rolling.



Bassist Tom Stewart and drummer Dave Dudley of Furnace Face.

Photo by Robert Hallett

Tool is energy and music

By JASON YOUNG
Staff Writer

Tool isn't a band. Tool is a form of energy.

It's this type of energy that can be considered harmful but necessary.

In an ecclesiastical sense, this energy would be deemed unholy, corrupt and dangerous, but Tool's energy predates any other form of energy. It's primary, primitive, and profane.

There are no traces of any secondary materialistic illusions with this CD. In other words, Tool isn't something contrived in hopes of making millions. Tool is a musical phenomenon not understood by most people; perhaps it's better that way.

The second full-length CD, **Aenima,** contains 15 songs and surprises that grab all your senses, causing a metamorphosis that replaces your mind with a "third eye" which in turn helps you realize what emotional, powerful and honest music is.

The music is hard, the lyrics well written and the feeling refreshing. Upon conversion to this CD you'll be sure to "see the light," and there won't be any penance for listening to the sinfully good psalms of Tool.

After Hours hosts comedy night

By JEFF GARRETT
Staff Writer

Taryn Della, of Halifax, N.S., was one of two comics to perform at After Hours on Oct. 23.

It was Della's first time at Niagara College and her first performance in the Niagara Region.

Della has only been doing comedy for Yuk Yuk's for about a year.

"It came to me to do comedy when I was doing a play in high school," she said. "Jack Benny was an influence to me."

"Growing up, I'd always watch Richard Pryor, and his stuff is great. It's about reality."

Della said she enjoys doing comedy because "it's a chance to express things to people that they don't like to express."

"I enjoy comedy. It's a non-traditional area for women," said Della, adding "sometimes it's problematic because there's a boundary for women comics that isn't there for guys. It's a challenge and I love it."

The last performer was Ronnie Edwards, 40, of England.

Edwards was a returning comic to After Hours.

Edwards has been in comedy for about 12 years. "There's no life like it. You've originally got about 200 comedians, which breaks down to 50 who actually end up making money doing comedy."

"You know what you want to do from a young age, and I've always wanted to entertain."

'I've been from Casablanca to Timbuktu with comedy'

Edwards has been all over the world performing.

"I've been from Casablanca to Timbuktu with comedy."

Edwards said he gets "fed up" with some comics today. "Some comics have taken comedy to the point where it's bull**** because they say a joke and they think it's funny, but it's only funny to them.

"As far as my career goes, it's entertaining and vibrant. I love it," said Edwards.

The Blues explode in Toronto

By JENNIFER ELLIOTT
Staff Writer

They aren't lying when they say the Blues Explosion perform the best live show, and Jon Spencer himself agrees as he screams, "the Blues is No. 1."

On Nov. 2 the Jon Spencer Blues Explosion not only played, but rocked The Phoenix in Toronto. Opening the set with *Identify* from their new album **Now I Got Worry**, the Blues Explosion set the pace for the remainder of the show.

Gently resting his upper lip on the microphone, Jon's deep voice mesmerizes an already attentive crowd. Seductively he swallows half of the mic while harmonically screaming the lyrics to *Write a Song*.

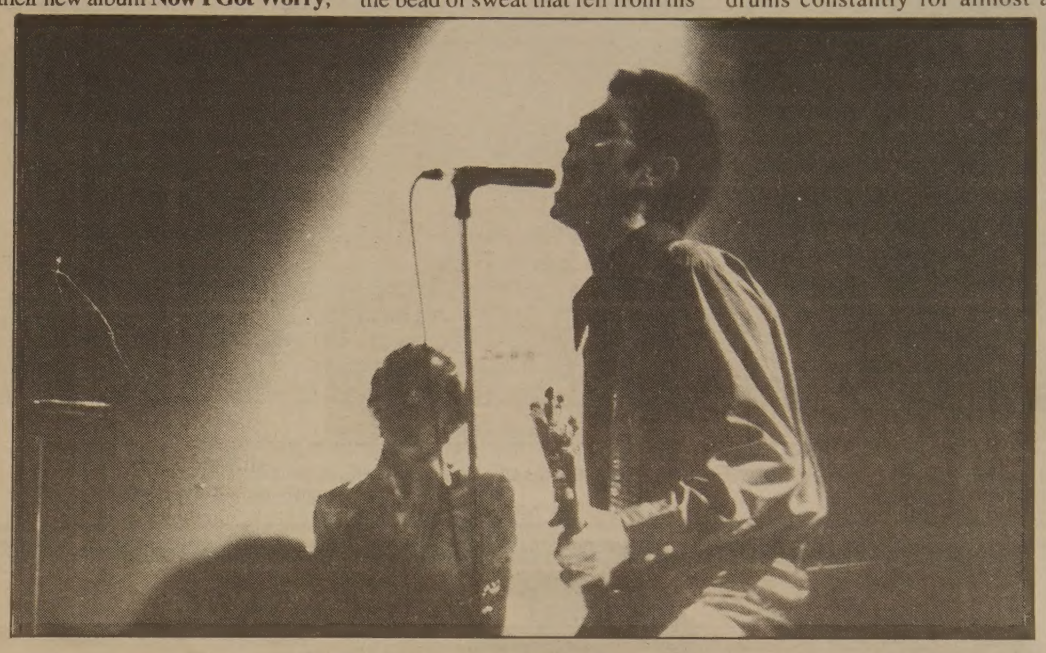
Spencer's bright red shirt and shiny gold pants were wet from the energy expressed through his patent leather shoes. Perfectly timed was the bead of sweat that fell from his chin as he shouted the word "sweat" from the song entitled just that.

Taking a casual moment during a song to introduce the Blues Explosion, Jon Spencer asked the crowd to "put your hands together for Mr. Judah Bauer ... and Mr. Russell Simins."

Simins is the drummer, and to say just that would be an understatement. Any man who can put that much energy into banging the drums constantly for almost an hour, plus an encore, deserves the credit and title of one of the most amazing drummers I've ever seen.

Bauer, although talented, was not into the gig at all. I don't recall ever seeing him smile but, that is trivial once you see the distortion he creates by shouting through a harmonica, into the mic.

Every song played throughout the hour and 15 minute set lacked a beginning or an end. Pausing only for a breath once in awhile, each song seemed to melt into the next.



A wailing Jon Spencer with Judah Bauer close behind.

Photo by Jennifer Elliott

The charisma didn't stop there. Spencer played the theramin, which added even more life to the show and created piercing noises that would make dogs howl.

Toward the end of the performance, and at the peak of the band's energy, I cringed as Jon knocked over the precious toy. However, slick and casual, he continued as though nothing happened.

In an Elvis-style voice, Jon Spencer thanked the crowd, "Thank you ladies and gentlemen." Spencer dug the crowd as much as we did him. After all "the Blues is No. 1."

CD buries itself into the ground

By JENNIFER ELLIOTT
Staff Writer

Not another one!

Yes, ladies and gents, the Crash Test Dummies have released another CD. This one is entitled **A Worm's Life**.

Not being a big fan of the Dummies to begin with, I can't ignore my natural bias, but I will be as fair as I can possibly be.

I hated it.

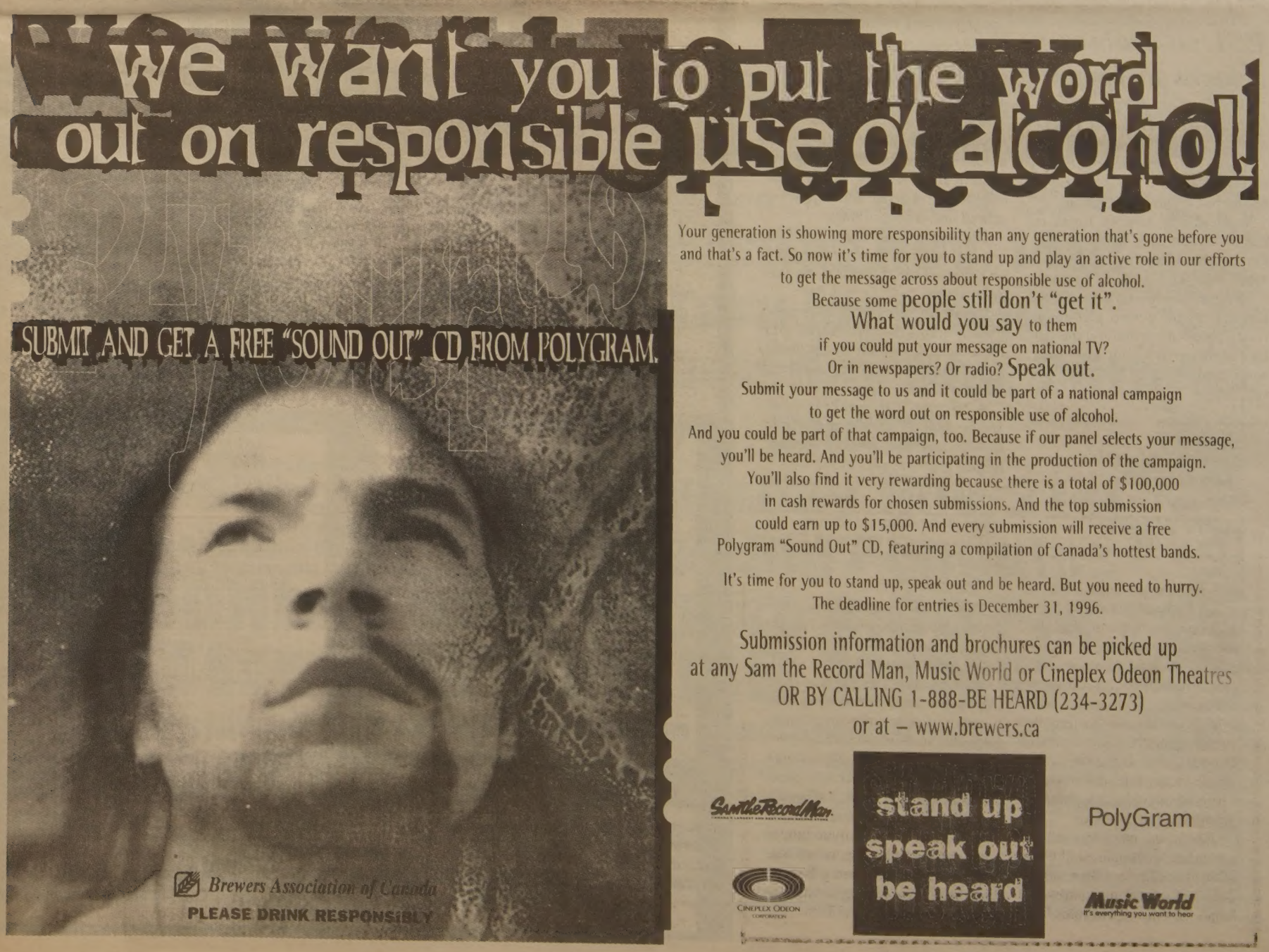
OK, but seriously. The first four tracks sound so alike that I thought they were all one song. I'm sure the CD could grow on a person; however, I didn't want to take the chance by listening to it again.

It's a Worm's Life

Their sound has remained contemporary, and I will give credit to the clever lyrics creatively written by Brad Roberts, lead vocals/guitar.

The use of instruments like the harmonica, melodica and theramin add an original sound that does appease the ears.

With all due respect, those who are faithful fans probably won't be disappointed with **A Worm's Life**, just as those who aren't fans won't be thrilled.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And you could be part of that campaign, too. Because if our panel selects your message, you'll be heard. And you'll be participating in the production of the campaign.
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It's time for you to stand up, speak out and be heard. But you need to hurry.
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Best Buddy program gears up for November start

By DEBRALEE VAN GHENT
Staff Writer

The Best Buddy program is in full swing.

The Best Buddy program held its match-making meeting on Oct. 24.

Roxane Reid, 22, a student co-ordinator in the Educational Resource Special Needs program, and Marica Rowat, 25, a leisure and volunteer co-ordinator with the Welland District Association for Community Living, participated in the meeting.

During the meeting, Reid and Rowat discussed who was going to be matched. The matches were made in part through a questionnaire.

They were "matched by their likes and dislikes through a personality questionnaire by the students as well as the buddies," said Reid.

There were 22 students matched — 11 student volunteers with 11 buddies. They have three associate members on an as-needed basis.

Involved in the matching for best buddies were students from the Early Childhood Education program with two participants, the Educational Resource Special Needs program with seven participants and, the Recreational Leadership program with one student.

A number of events that deal with the Best Buddies program are scheduled.

On Nov. 15, there will be a representational meeting with Reid and Rowat.

On Nov. 23, there will be a group outing so the volunteers and their buddies can meet other Best Buddies participants for the first time at the Pizza Hut on Niagara Street in Welland at 10:45 a.m.

The students and buddies should have made contact by the telephone at least twice before the Nov. 23 outing.

College teacher seeks more students in Japan

ESL co-ordinator returns to Japan

By RICHARD MANCUSO
Staff Writer

Susan Vandenboom recently returned from a 10-day trip to Japan, but it was no vacation.

Vandenboom was in Japan on behalf of Niagara College, promoting the school to students in Japan who wish to study abroad.

Vandenboom, co-ordinator of the English as a Second Language (ESL) program, promoted the college at this year's education fairs, which took place in Osaka, Nagoya and Tokyo.

> ***'I felt comfortable getting around because I understand a little Japanese'***

"I was asked to go because I have been to Japan before," said Vandenboom. "I felt comfortable getting around because I understand a little bit of Japanese—also because I am the ESL co-ordinator and 95 per cent of students need English before they can get into the other courses."

Vandenboom said the two fairs she attended in Osaka and Tokyo were packed. She was at each one-day fair talking to students.

"I think it (the trip) was a success," said Vandenboom. "We weren't there last year and it was very important that we were there this year to get the exposure we did get and to make contact with people that we talked with."

"Another thing I was doing was going to the Study Abroad Agents (those who help foreign students)," she said.

Students who want to study abroad will visit one of these agents to help them narrow down their choices from what country, what school and what program.

The agent will help a student organize any papers and even apply on behalf of the students if the student wishes.

Vandenboom left Niagara College information packages with these agents and told them about new courses and changes to old courses at the college.

A former ESL student from Japan, Junko Onishi, currently in the Office Administration program, helped organize part of the trip.

Onishi divided up a map of Tokyo into sections and listed each agent in the different section.

This was "a big help," said Vandenboom, when organizing who to visit and when.

This was not Vandenboom's first visit to Japan. She lived and taught English there from 1988 to 1990. Vandenboom worked for ABC English School. Her job was to go into large companies after business hours and teach the employees English.

"It was a lot of fun. It was really interesting. I learned a lot about their culture."

Vandenboom said she would have liked to have had more time to make more contacts, but her college classes were waiting and she didn't want to be away from her classes for more than two weeks.

See you in the movies

A Niagara College broadcasting crew at work in the Welland campus parking lot. From left: Greg Hemmings, Tina Elliot, Mike Gilman, Marianne Gal, Trisha Franklin and Bob Giles.
Photo by Keri-Lynn Smith

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College relaunches campaign

By JHIM BURWELL
Staff Writer

About 80 business people from the Niagara Region met on Oct. 24 for the official relaunch of the Niagara College Capital Campaign.

"The presentation the college administration made was a team effort," said Niagara College President Dan Patterson.

Bonnie Rose, the college's vice-president, academic, gave an "excellent overview" of academic planning for the Maid of the Mist Centre, the new Niagara-on-the-Lake campus and the renovations at Welland, said Patterson.

The overview was based on "the anticipation of academics that will be offered" at Niagara College.

A major change under the Master Plan for the college's future will be a move away from the 11 sites that house various programs to have all programming at the three main campuses in Welland, Niagara Falls and Niagara-on-the-Lake—each with its own academic emphasis.

Rose is gathering and going through lots of "powerful information" to make a good program mix at each campus, said Patterson.

This duty includes research on class size, scheduling and continuing education. "Continuing education is a big consideration" for Niagara, said the president, adding demographics must be analyzed to attract more students by offering more attractive programs.

It was a "really successful event," said Patterson, referring to the relaunch. "There were students from the Maid of the Mist Centre in Niagara Falls serving wine and cheese."

Keith Dill, chair of the Niagara College Foundation board, was master of ceremonies for the evening. His responsibilities focus on fundraising.

Patterson said Dill gave a "moving tribute" when he spoke about the college's role in the community. "It was a personal testament on why he volunteered" to help Niagara College on the foundation board.

"Hardly a business or industry (in the region) hasn't been touched by Niagara College in some way," said Dill from his office in St. Catharines. "As we make our calls we are invariably well received."

Dill said he has "no doubt we'll go over the top" in the capital campaign.

Andrew Nizielski, of Moffat Kinoshita Associates Inc. of Hamilton, followed Dill's testimonial with the architect's sketch of the phases of construction for the Niagara-on-the-Lake campus.

The new campus at Glendale Avenue will have facilities for corporate training, conferences, seminar rooms along with college facilities.

Because of the close proximity of White Oaks to the construction, the business people "saw the bulldozers at the site," said Patterson.

After Nizielski, Patterson spoke concerning his feelings about "why the government backed and helped us to fulfill the plan."

The government's financial involvement in the project motivated the relaunch of the capital campaign that "really was a call to arms rallying the business community," said Patterson, adding "an investment in Niagara College is an investment in the region."

He said the college's plan was to try to appeal to the business acumen of the investors at the conference and "to introduce business people with a vision for the college and plans and investments."

Don Johnson, the interim chief executive officer for the Niagara College Foundation, works with the college to raise the $6 million that is still needed to complete construction.

Johnson is responsible for securing bursaries that will remove "insufficient funds" as an excuse to stay out of college.

Like Dill, Johnson spoke about why he originally got involved with the college foundation as a volunteer. He told the gathering about the Welland Rotary Club's donation of $25,000 on Oct. 29, and the challenges that are still ahead for the college.

Patterson said Johnson has a "cabinet" of people throughout the region who he calls on to decide whom the college should go to for donations.

Learn on vacation

By PENNI TONEGUZZO
Staff Writer

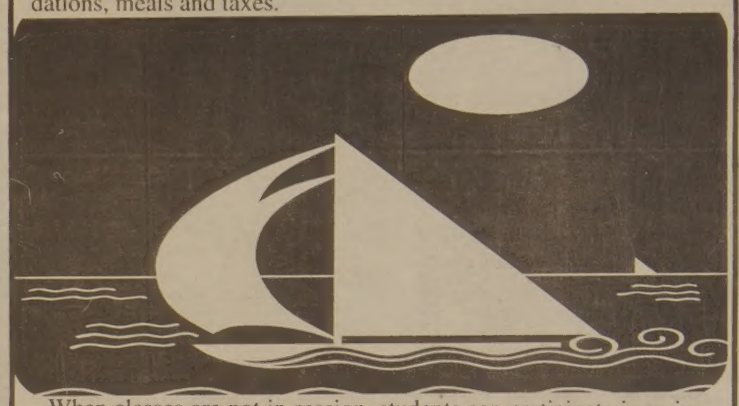
Would you like to go away for your winter vacation and learn a different language at the same time?

It can be done.

Niagara College is offering a new course through the Continuing Education Department.

Taralea McLean, the Continuing Education development officer, and the Hispanic-Canadian Language Centre have worked together to create a study Spanish course to be taught in Costa Rica.

The one-week basic or one-week intermediate course costs $1,485. A two-week basic or two-week intermediate course costs $2,085. Costs include classes, guided outings, materials, airfare, accommodations, meals and taxes.



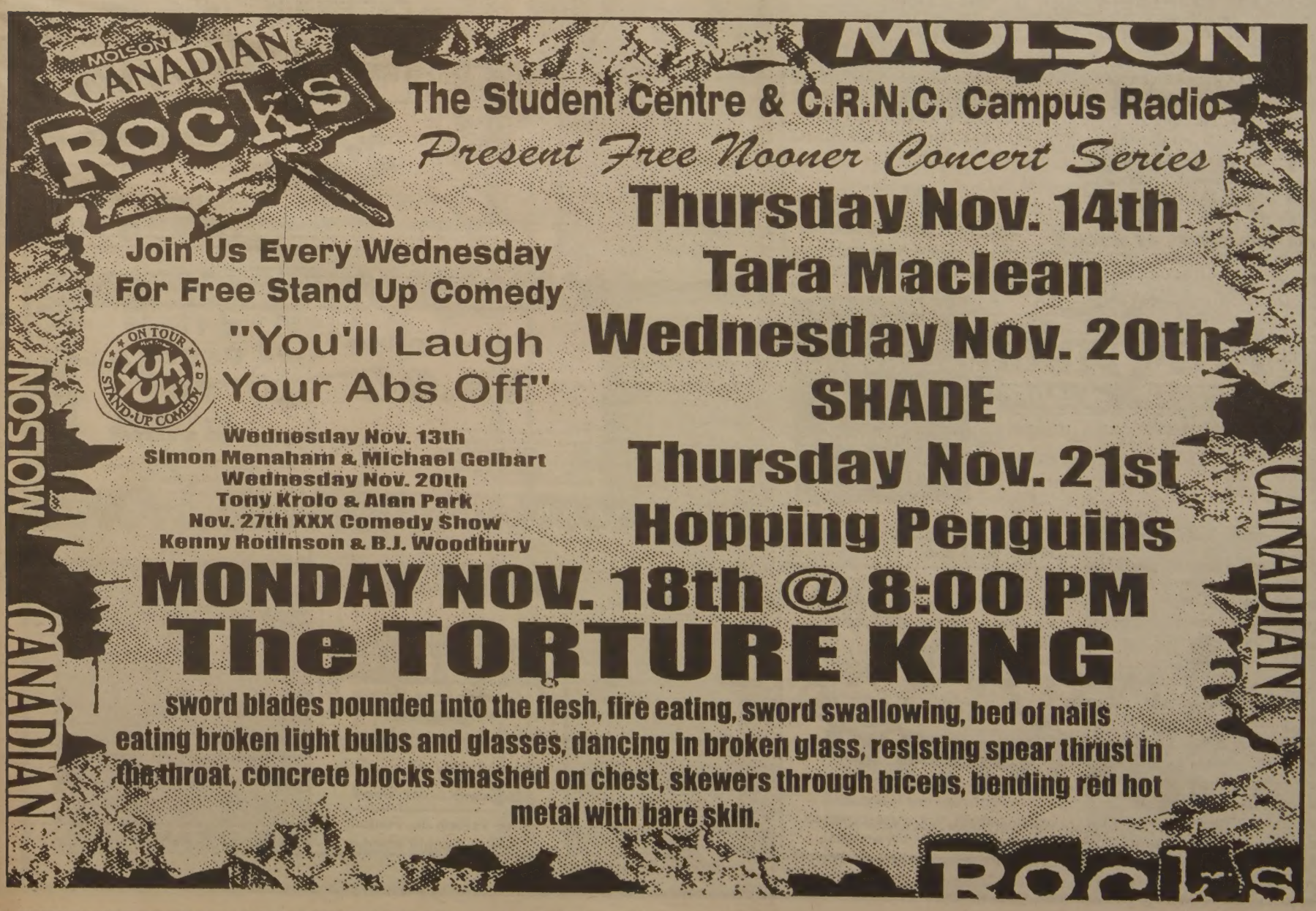
When classes are not in session, students can participate in swimming, cycling, tennis, kayaking, hiking, snorkeling and horseback riding. They can also relax at the Gandoca-Manzanillo National Park across from the resort where classes are held.

The course consists of classroom instruction on simple grammar, travel vocabulary, casual conversation practice, and also includes three guided tours in the afternoon, when you can practice your Spanish in the community.

Students willl stay at the Los Palmas Beach Resort in Costa Rica.

The Spanish course is a certificate program.

If you are interested or have any questions, contact McLean at Ext. 7610. Enrolment is limited.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Food for Thought

By CHRISTINE TURMAINE
Staff Writer

With a fun and relaxing atmosphere, **M.T. Bellies** is certainly one of Niagara's top restaurants.

My first visit to the Welland restaurant was undeniably impressive.

I can see why their first three years have been very successful.

From the outside, **M.T. Bellies** resembles a ranch-like Texan saloon and the inside looks like a fun, anything-goes place that will probably make you feel right at home.

Greeting us with an I'm-really-glad-you're-here smile, the waitress sat us right in front of the cozy fireplace in "The Loft." With Hootie and the Blowfish playing on the radio along with the unique atmosphere, I knew my visit would certainly be a pleasant one.

There are plenty of things to see and do at **M.T. Bellies** that keep one entertained. The main dining room is strategically centred around a giant, inanimate tree which seems to be made of paper mache.

Behind it, there is a miniature toy cyclist, biking on a tight-rope from one end of the room and back.

In the entrance, there is a huge paper-mache man standing beside a scale on which you can weigh yourself. (But you'd probably want to do it before your meal.)

M.T. Bellies also supplies every table with self-entertainment. Each table is covered with paper so you can leave your work of art on it, using the supplied Crayola crayons. There are also Trivial Pursuit questions and challenging mind games for you to try.

The waitress took our order quite promptly and quickly returned with a complimentary bowl of chips and dip to keep our stomachs from rumbling.

The staff at **M.T. Bellies** is surely picked from the cream of the crop. We could hear their energetic attitudes coming from the kitchen as they prepared to sing a very unique version of **"Happy Birthday"** to a guest that night. Their hospitality really seemed genuine.

When our food arrived, my eyes almost popped out of my face. The portions were huge. But we dug in.

I had the tamale noodles. It was tangy rotini noodles with fresh tomatoes, sauce and salsa baked with Monterey jack cheese, green onions and juicy strips of chicken breast. It was fantastic and filling. I really thought I'd have to call 9-1-1 to wheel me out of there.

My companion endulged himself in the Marco Polo Poulet. Two boneless chicken breasts grilled with sauteed mushrooms and green peppers, covered with melted Swiss cheese and a creamy sauce. It was served with spaghetti marinara and mixed vegetables. It's safe to say the plate was left without a morsel present.

I have to mention the thing that impressed me the most. At the end of our meal, a waiter (who was not ours) politely came over and cleared our table of the dirty dishes. (That's when you know great customer service is not over-looked.)

M.T. Bellies proves its **"Big Food, Big Fun"** policy with its Belly Buster Challenge. The challenge is open to anyone who thinks that they can finish a 64-ounce sirloin steak, garlic loaf, salad, potato, veggies and dessert in less than 100 minutes.

Eat it all, they say, and it's yours free and they'll even throw in a free "I-can't-believe-I-ate-the-whole-thing" T-shirt, and your picture will be posted on the Belly Buster Wall-Of-Fame.

If you can't finish it all, then your photograph is placed on the Wall-of-Shame and you'll get a bill for a whopping $35. Todate, almost 170 people have tried the challenge and only 20 to 30 have been successful.

Why not celebrate a birthday in the pasture room with a Belly Buster Challenge. The pasture is an excitingly humorous backroom that can be reserved for parties.

M.T. Bellies has a huge selection of big food for those with a small budget. Their prices range from $3 to $15 with most entrees being between $7 and $10.

If you enjoy eating late, the kitchen is open right until the restaurant closes, every night of the week.

In a phrase, **M.T. Bellies** is definitely **"Big Food, Big Fun."**

Having a party? M. T. Bellies staff is shown in the pasture room which is available for group reservations.
Photo by Christine Turmaine

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Counsellors learn a lot at Information Day

By AMANDA MANSFIELD
Staff Writer

About 100 people, including high school guidance counsellors, career counsellors and Niagara College staff, attended the third annual Counsellor Information Day on Oct 25.

The event, held at the Ameri-Cana Hotel in Niagara Falls, is for Niagara Region counsellors to learn more about what Niagara College offers.

The morning began with Lyn Russo, the college's director of Communication and Planning, introducing Russ Blackbird to give a First Nations official welcome.

Russo's department arranged the event.

Blackbird, the aboriginal culture promotion and outreach officer in the Aboriginal Education Office, welcomed everyone with a speech describing how the Six Nations begin each gathering of this sort.

After his speech, Blackbird surprised the crowd with an emotional beating of a native drum and singing to give thanks.

The first speaker, Dr. Bonnie Rose, the college's vice-president, academic, spoke on the college's academics, student success and new programs.

This year there were six workshops: one from the aboriginal programs, two from the Information and Computer Technology Division and three from the Health and Community Studies.

Following the workshops and lunch, Niagara College President Dan Patterson was the second to speak.

Patterson spoke about the importance of counsellors and their role in relationship to the college.

He then spoke about three major issues: the cuts that have occurred at secondary and post-secondary schools, the fundraising that Niagara College has done to make up for the cuts and the college's Master Plan (an overview of what's happening at Niagara over the next few years).

To wrap up the day, two door prize winners won a Niagara College sweatshirt and another two winners won dinner for two at the Maid of the Mist Centre for Hospitality and Tourism in Niagara Falls.

Claire Patterson, a youth worker for the Lincoln County Board of Education at Lakeport Secondary School in St. Catharines, was attending the information day for the first time.

She attended the aboriginal program workshop because a few of the students from the program were there to give their stories.

"I got to hear very emotional stories of their lives and what they had to say about the program that they were in," said Patterson. "It was a personal and professional investment to come here today."

Patterson said she plans to come back next year.

Fred Stock, a guidance counsellor at E.L. Crossley Secondary School in Pelham, has attended the conference for the past two years. He said this was the best one he has attended so far.

"The day is to gain more practical information on programs," said Stock. "It emphasizes the importance of English skills and communications skills to function."

Jennifer Bryant, head of student services at Centennial Secondary School in Welland, said it was an excellent day.

"Mostly I enjoyed the Health and Community Studies workshop which brought in students to give their opinions.

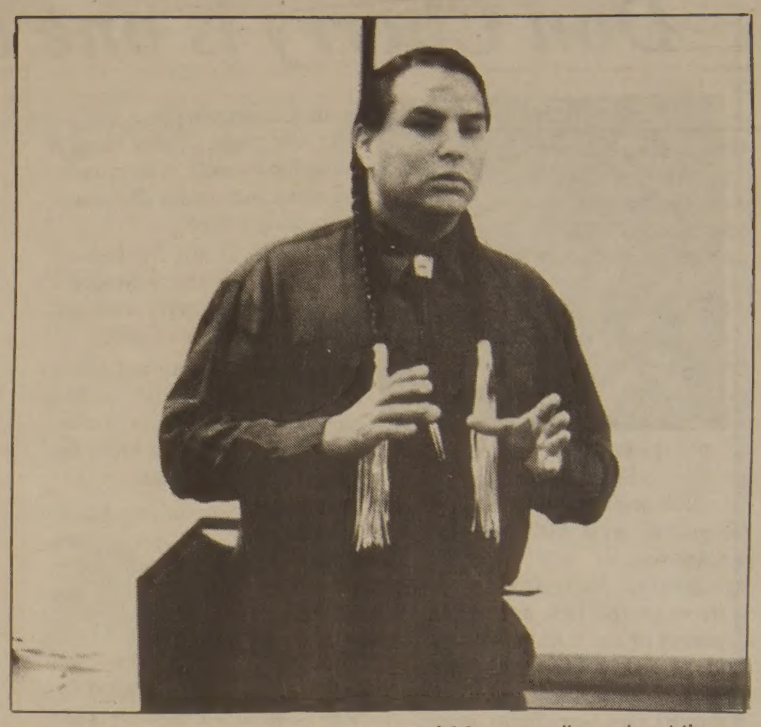
"I felt hope for these people getting jobs because they have been out in the community getting experience already," said Bryant.

From the Lifetime Learning Centre in St. Catharines, guidance counsellor Lee Howden said the day went well and it was helpful.

"The main benefit was to have the opportunity to talk one on one with people from specific programs on behalf of the students," said Howden.

The event's arranger, Cathy Wier, communication officer in the college's communication and planning department, said the event went "very well."

"It has been very postive feedback and everyone has gone away with some new information," said Weir.



Russ Blackbird speaks to a group of 30 counsellors about the aboriginal programs at Niagara College.
Photo by Amanda Mansfield

"It was the most successful event ever and it gets better every year," said Russo. "This year we took a bit of a risk by changing the format by having a whole division covered in workshops."

Asked about Blackbird's welcoming, Russo said, "in the summer I went to the Woodland Cultural Centre in Brantford and went through a day of cultural orientation which impressed me so much I thought we had to share this, and we did.

"The registration for the aboriginal workshop was 11, but 30 people showed up," she said. "I believe it really caught people."

"The feedback has all been great without one negative comment. In fact, one gentleman said it was five star."

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SPORTS

Don Cherry is one of a kind

By RANDY SYER
Staff Writer

He's arrogant, cocky, controversial, and 100 per cent Canadian.

Every Saturday night, between the first and second period of the televised hockey game, for about two minutes former National Hockey League coach Don Cherry lights up television screens across Canada.

From 1974 to 1979 he coached the Boston Bruins to four first-place finishes and one second-place finish.

He made two Stanley Cup finals losing both times.

In five years Cherry made a name for himself in the coaching ranks, but and for all his success - he got fired.

Oh well, if not for Boston Bruins' owner Harry Sinden's decision to fire Cherry we might not of had Coaches Corner.

Hockey fans may not know the meaning of "buango," or that mucking in the corners is actually good and getting hit in the "trolley tracks" is bad.

Cherry holds nothing back. He simply tells it like it is. Sure he's sometimes rude and maybe steps out of line, but that's his style.

His no-visor, let's drop' em kind of attitude has shaped the way Canadian hockey fans think.

Many hockey fans are waiting for Cherry to step past the line and for the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) to tell him to hit the road.

The question remains will Cherry outlast CBC or will they get to Grapes first.

I feel sorry for the next generation who will never see Cherry yell in Ron Maclean's ear, about whatever is going on in hockey.

What will happen when the great ambassador of Canadian hockey leaves his post on Saturday night?

Can we face no more Coaches Corner or the unthinkable coaches Corner without Don Cherry.

The CBC had better, for hockey's sake, take Coaches Corner off Hockey Night in Canada.

If they don't and replace Cherry with a loud mouth wanna be, then CBC viewers might immigrate to the FOX network and their glowing puck.

Cherry is hockey's Howard Cosell and when he finally makes his fairwell to hockey — his legend will live larger than life.

Sarkis at home with new athletic responsibilities

By ROBERT HALLETT
Staff Writer

Raymond Sarkis says he enjoys his new responsibilities at Niagara College.

Sarkis, 40, of Welland, is the assistant to the director of varsity athletics.

Before coming to the college, he worked as a coach for 12 years at Centennial High School in Welland.

At the college, his duties include varsity scheduling, accommodations and transportation for the athletes of the various teams. He also goes to meetings held by the Ontario College Athletic Association.

Sarkis worked 15 years in the college's shipping and receiving department, while having a small role in the school's athletic department.

"I was involved with sports all the time. I was just waiting for the right opportunity."

He has been working with the college's athletic department for two years.

He says students playing sports learn responsibility, commitment, discipline and how to be a team player.

The athletic department has an annual budget of about $160,000. The money is for team uniforms, sports equipment, maintaining the gym facility and transportation and accommodation costs for the athletes.

His only complaint is having only one gym at the college. "All of the teams do not get enough time to practice. With seven teams this year, we could use a new gym facility."

The men's basketball team plays its first home exhibition game against Sheridan College from Oakville on Nov. 12.

Sarkis says he invites students and the public to attend the games.

He says the college teams are "very respectable. They have a good potential of making it to the finals this year."

There will be giveaways at all home games. It costs $1 for students and $2 for adults. Children get in free.

Hockey program will never rest in peace

By RANDY SYER
Staff Writer

Niagara College hockey is gone, but not forgotten.

It has been two years since the Niagara College athletic department made the decision to discontinue the hockey program.

Yet, every season approaches and many questions surface.

Why cancel a program that won five straight International Collegiate Hockey League Championships from 1987-92.

Let's see, the last time any other major varsity athletic team won a gold medal was way back in 1969-70 when the women's basketball team brought gold home.

Niagara has a non-existing program that has won more championships than all existing varsity sports put together.

"I don't think winning and losing was in the equation of drop a program," said Fred Bassi, the former head coach of the hockey program. "I think what was in it (the decision) was the monitary."

Although, Bassi said he understands the decision to drop the hockey program, decision hurt and bothered him after being part of the hockey program for 24 years.

"I felt the hockey program was good for Niagara College and I still do," said Bassi. "Something had to be dropped and they chose the hockey program."

Jeff Taylor, a second-year broadcasting student, said it was a "stupid," decision to take out the hockey program.

"In the past the hockey team was always doing pretty well while most of the other sports at Niagara College haven't won in a long while," said Taylor.

Taylor, 21, said he didn't understand why the head of athletics cancelled hockey because it's Canada's national sport and he looked forward to playing hockey for Niagara.

"Hockey is one of the reasons I wanted to come to Niagara College," said Taylor.

Brad Moscato, 21, is a Journalism-Print program student who said he was looking forward to playing hockey for Niagara.

"When I arrived at Niagara I thought there would be a hockey team," said Moscato. "When I found out the program was cancelled, I was very disappointed."

Due to the economy and hockey being an expensive sport to play, it would be tough for Niagara to get it back.

Ice time, equipment, travelling and overnight expenses are just some of the major costs for a hockey program.

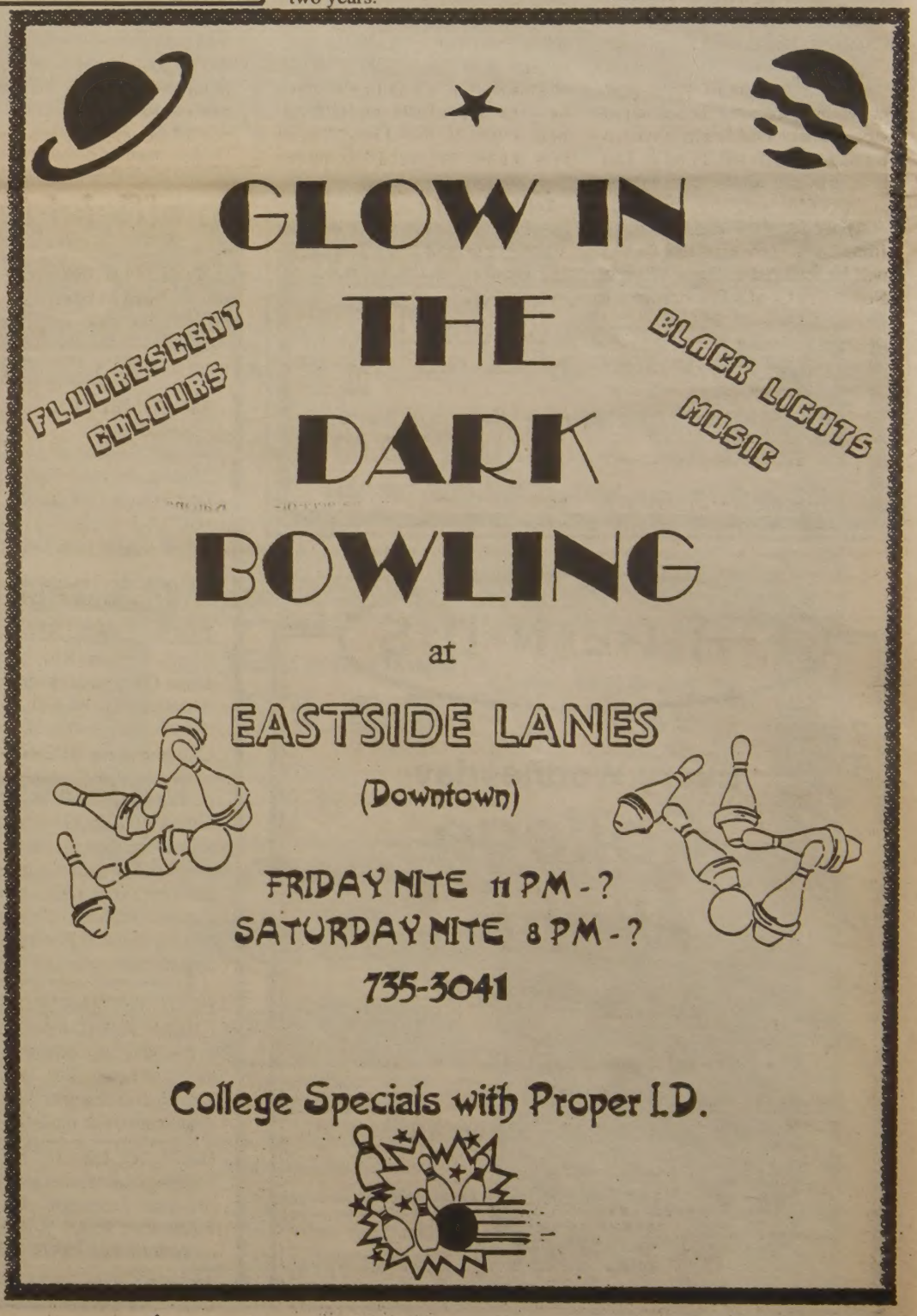
"To start it initially again would be expensive," said Bassi. "So I don't know if the program could really start unless you did some kind of fund-raisng."

Moscato disagreed and said by the time college approaches "hockey players should have the necessary equipment" to step on the ice and begin the season.

"Obviously they have been playing hockey for years before they came to college," said Moscato. "The issue of ice time is putting up $120 for about 25 students. I think the majority of hockey players would pay the required cost."

Moscato said hockey is a Canadian pastime. He indicated that there is probably no school in the United States without a baseball team.

"I think that hockey is essential for any Canadian post-secondary institution."



NOTABLES

Patterson discusses business in Thailand

By JHIM BURWELL
Staff Writer

Niagara College President Dan Patterson is in Thailand.

He is there to discuss establishing a centre for environmental and industrial training at the University of Burapha "using what we learned in setting up our highly successful centre for environmental training."

Items to be discussed include curriculum, joint ventures with industry, faculty expertise and management advice.

Niagara College is involved in a joint project with Brock University in St. Catharines. The project is coordinated by Sheila Young from the Brock administration.

Al Unwin and Rick Brady represent Niagara College, while David Brown and John Middleton are from Brock.

Many post-secondary institutions across Canada competed for the project, which is the responsibility of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). Because of this, all costs for Patterson's visit and other faculty are paid by CIDA.

The purpose of the visit "is to meet with the heads of four institutions we work with," said Patterson, and particularly the University of Burapha president, to discuss the status of product and industry-education linkages.

Patterson made his comments before leaving.

All ages welcome to zine festival in St. Catharines

By TANYA BRYAN
Staff Writer

Come one, come all, to St. Catharines' first zine festival called Copy Write.

"A zine is a small, hand-made pubication done purely out of passion, rarely making a profit or breaking even," said Brandon Bain, co-organizer of the festival and author of his own zine, a.d.i.d.a.s.

About 30 zines and five bands from the Niagara area and Toronto will be featured at Copy Write on Nov. 16 at Gord's Place from 2 to 7 p.m. Admission is free and all ages are welcome.

"Myself and Tracy (Hurst) both attended a couple events in Toronto and we figured why don't we have one in St. Catharines?" said Bain. Hurst is helping organize everything, and also does a zine of her own called Prozac Girl.

"There isn't really much difference between zines from Toronto and here. The only difference is people buy them and there's more of a scene there."

Bain said he's hoping people will begin to recognize zines in the area and pick them up.

"This will be kinda like a starting gate. Hopefully we'll hold another one in the spring," said Bain, adding that he'd like to do Copy Write twice a year.

Tables will be set up on the Shooters side, where you'll be able to check out and buy zines from their creators.

Simultaneously, bands will be playing on Gord's side. St. Catharines' industrial band Nexa Psionica, Tire Kickers, Spittle and Hood Rat, who both have zines of their own. Another band is to be announced.

Niagara Action for Animals will have a table set up and be accepting donations.

If you do a zine and would like a table, contact Bain at 688-3433.

BUFS mingles sex and insects

By ADAM KIESWETTER
Staff Writer

How satisfying it is to see the hypocrisy of aristocracy debunked by a modest hero.

The Brock Unversity Film Society (BUFS) presented British director Philip Haas's *Angels and Insects* (1995), on Oct. 27 at the St. Catharines Town Cinemas.

In this somberly disturbing film, Darwin's theory of "survival of the fittest" is integrated into the plot and serves to illustrate typical human weakness as well as the repellent haughtiness of 19th century elitist society.

William is a penniless natural scientist of common descent who, upon losing much of his life's work in an accident at sea, is accepted into the folds of the noble Alabaster family (much to the chagrin of the eldest son).

Lord Alabaster is a decent gentleman and employs William to index his life's collection of various artifacts while allowing him to continue on with his own studies concerning the habitat and nature of insects.

William soon falls in love with Lord Alabaster's eldest daughter, a fair vision of delicate blonde curls — yet mysteriously skittish and troubled — and they eventually marry.

Soon after the marriage, an itching uneasiness looms heavy in the air, making the audience aware, in some sticky sense, that William is somehow vulnerable in this new marital bond with his sensual, yet distant wife.

Spooky mood swings and some disturbingly intermingled connotations linking society, sex and the insect world drive a feeling of apprehension through to the audience and slowly shift them to the edge of their seats.

At length, the methodical genius of the ant colony William and the family children are studying is placed under the looking glass. Some subtle comparisons are then drawn between the revolting upper class cant of the era's society and the simple diligence of the "common" worker ant.

One of the films most gaspingly revealing scenes has the family's forthright midwife, also a fellow naturalist and William's confidante at this point, playing cards with him and the children.

Summing up the films writhing point by melding the conscienceless, procreative drive of the insect world with that of the vain, but often morally aloof hypocrisy of human existence, she slides her lettered cards across the table to her card-partner, William.

He adjusts the cards to spell the word *INSECT* and slides them back to her. She shuffles two letters and slides the cards back with a sly, almost sheepish gaze. He picks up the cards and reads the word with a start. She has spelled *INCEST.*

BUFS will be screening *La Haine (Hate),* France (1994) by Mathieu Kassovitz on Nov. 10 at the Town Cinemas. For information call 688-5550 Ext. 3257 or 3338.

An official tour of Niagara College campuses

By JHIM BURWELL
Staff Writer

An official with the Ontario Ministry of Education toured Niagara College on Oct. 17.

The purpose of the visit was to get the new person representing the ministry "up to speed" on issues facing colleges, said Niagara College President Dan Patterson.

Katrina King, director of the college affairs branch in the Ontario Ministry of Education and Training, saw many of the program areas at the Welland campus and toured the site of the new Niagara-on-the-Lake campus.

She had lunch at the Maid of the Mist Centre in Niagara Falls with regional employers who, Patterson said, "shared their views of how the college interacts with the community."

The role of the director of college affairs includes the analysis of budgets, performances and programs.

Patterson said he felt it was, for this reason, "important we explain operations." He said Bonnie Rose, vice-president, academic, organized a well-balanced day toward that end.

"I tried to convey to her (King) that she needs to understand the impacts the cuts have had on (program) quality," said Patterson, such as large class sizes, staffing cuts, strains on research and work on programming.

The president said he felt it was a "very successful meeting. We made our points. She has a greater understanding of a day in the life of Niagara College."

The Green Mile completed

By MIKE HASTINGS
Staff Writer

Dead man walking!

Stephen King's new tale is a fun and terrifying read.

The Green Mile is divided into six parts and each part was released the first week of each month, beginning in April.

The story is narrated by Paul Edgecombe, a former guard at Cold Mountain Penitentiary, who lives at the Georgia Pines nursing home.

All the strange happenings begin when John Coffey, a giant of a man now sentenced to death for the rape and murder of twin girls, came to E Block to await his turn on death row.

Coffey is made out to be a cold-blooded man, but he is nothing but a gentle man with the ability to heal people with his massive hands.

As in all his novels, King is very detailed and graphic in his description of horrifying events. The execution of Eduard Delacroix, another inmate, is a gruesome read.

King always has interesting and colorful characters. In the *Mile*, his characters range from an insane inmate named Billy the Kid, a trouble-maker guard named Percy Wettmore, and a mouse which the guards named Mr. Jingles.

Each part ends with a cliff-hanger ending that will keep the reader in suspense until they open the next part.

The final part of the series is spine-tingling and sad, but the avid reader will not be disappointed.

The Green Mile series is by far one of King's best pieces of work since his final Castlerock novel, *Needful Things*. This story will grab you by the throat and will not let go until you put it down.

Along with this series, King has two new novels out, *Desperation* and *The Regulators.*

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THE LAST PAGE

Celestine Prophecy is believeable fiction

By ADAM KIESWETTER
Staff Writer

This could be the meaning of life.

For a book with such a benevolent message, James Redfield's *The Celestine Prophecy* has been an awful bully on the best-seller list.

A regular on the best-seller fiction list, it has been rooted there like a rock for over a year.

After reading this book, I really can't understand why.

Not why it's been on the best-seller list for so long, but why is it fiction?

Admittedly this is an adventure story, an intriguing fictional tale—but beyond this, the ideals it spikes into the veins of its readers are potent ones indeed.

What this author has done is plant a seed, and not merely a single seed in the mind of an individual reader, but the type of seed that sprouts a crop of quiet revolutionaries.

The Celestine Prophecy helps us to become cognizant of the coincidences in life, and to turn these often subtly significant instances into what they are meant to be — opportunities.

Drawing from the genius of past minds, Redfield illustrates the collective possibility of these intellectual efforts in the form of nine insights into the nature of life itself.

Making reference to Albert Einstein in one of the insights, for example, he reiterates the theory that all is "mostly empty space with a pattern of energy running through it."

He goes on to explain a process which enables a person to "project" energy, to, in effect, alter the flow of energy, therefore suggesting the universe, and subsequently our very existence, is completely fluid and subject to change by our mere desire to do so.

While this concept might seem to be reaching beyond the confines of reality, it can, however, be considered pragmatic in the sense that even projecting a positive and optimistic attitude toward a situation, will, if nothing else, change your outlook and *your* reality.

Also questionable is the book's relatively easy-read quality.

Whether Redfield kept it simple in order to maintain a focus on the insights, or whether that's giving him too much credit as a writer, and he's just not as swooning a scribe as some, is the point at question when examining the often pale writing style of this book.

Perhaps Redfield was in actuality yearning to write a textbook, or a modern-day bible. His characters are monotonously similar and lack just that, *character.*

Despite its simple format, this is a thrillingly complex network of exciting ideas.

Later in the book, Redfield touches on the evolution of mankind and successfully provides a model of sorts to explain the commonly mingled history of evolution and religion.

This is a book that tells you to be the self which you truly are and in the process answers a lot of questions. More important, *The Celestine Prophecy* poses a lot of questions — and isn't that what good writing is all about?

A leisurely affair

Staff Writer

First-year students in the Recreation Leadership program will be presenting a Leisure Activity Fair for the staff and students of Niagara College on Monday, Nov. 18.

The fair will include displays and demonstrations of various recreation activities that exist within the Niagara Region.

Individuals are encouraged to get involved in recreation pursuits to enhance their lives.

The fair takes place in the atrium area outside the Learning Resource Centre at the Welland campus from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 18.

The fair is an opportunity for the Recreation Leadership program students to share their specific recreation knowledge, while gaining experience in communication and leadership.

Everyone is invited.

Brend paid her dues

By KERI-LYNN SMITH
Staff Writer

From a high school newspaper to the St. Catharines Standard, 28-year-old journalist Yvette Brend has come a long way.

Brend, a British Columbia native, got her bachelor's degree from the University of Victoria, where she majored in poetry.

"There's a useful major," she said with a laugh.

She said every year she tried to get a co-op placement because "schools can teach you just so much." She applied for about 20 jobs, and finally got hired at "a little weekly in southern B.C."

Brend said working in a 500-person town was quite an experience.

"When you write something, they know where to find you, and they do. It's sort of like a personal letter to the editor."

She stayed there for her four-month term and decided to stay an additional four months. People would be "floored at how much more experience you get at a smaller place," she said.

After she got her bachelor of arts, she attended Ryerson in Toronto. Although she was scared to be in a big city, she said she quickly realized that "people are just people everywhere.

"Everything that you try will just feed into the experience that you get."

While at Ryerson, she sent out hundreds of resumes from Alaska to Hong Kong.

"Colored paper won't work," she said. "You have to keep calling back until they notice your name for some reason."

Brend didn't stop there. She wrote for local publications as well as worked in public relations for the government. She was an editorial assistant for CBC for about nine months.

At The Standard, before covering Niagara-on-the-Lake, she had the general, education and police beats.

"There's no typical day."

She said although The Standard receives about 300 resumes a month, people should never give up.

"They hired me," she said smiling.

Brend spoke before a group of second-year Journalism-Print program students on Oct. 21.

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BY PENNI TONEGUZZO

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